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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

January 8, 2004

San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & Welfare

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, January 8, 2004

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman,

Kelly Jensen, Susan Wheeler, Chin Chi, Joanne Kipnis,

Jack Breslin, Vicki Guldbech, William Herndon, Dan McKenna
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Mailing Address: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074

Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc

Commission Chairperson: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

_ Vote taken on excused absences

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items on the agenda at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the October 9, 2003 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

- a. Welcoming remarks

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

- a. Status of Supervisor support/acknowledgment of the need to prioritize sufficient enforcement of Federal, State, and local law as it applies to entrepreneurs of live animal markets. [Commissioner Jensen]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

- a. Proposed establishment of a local ordinance that would prohibit veterinarians from declawing cats. This legislation would prohibit declawing surgical procedures, but would allow declawing for therapeutic purposes only - when the procedure is medically necessary to protect the cat's health.

- i. Status of Supervisor support regarding a local resolution and ordinance

[Commissioners Kennedy, Franklin, & Wheeler]

- b. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package to include:

- i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.

[Commissioners Franklin, Guldbeck, & Herndon]

- ii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Add Section 39: Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of a said dog, to exchange personal identification information and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.

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- a. Development of local "Cambridge-type" ordinance that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.

[Commissioner Eckman] [Discussion/Action Item]

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_ Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Proposal to designate Trap-Neuter-Adopt-Return (TNR) as an officially approved means to humanely address homeless/feral cat issues in the City and County of San Francisco.

[Commissioners Chi & Wheeler] [Discussion/Action Item]

- b. Proposal to restore Commission voting rights to city department representative members, which may include designated representatives from the Police Department, Animal Care & Control, Department of Health, and the Recreation and Park Department.

[Commissioners Franklin & Kennedy] [Discussion/Action Item (2/3 vote required)]

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[Commissioner Franklin] [Review Item]

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

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- San Francisco
Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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/// Draft Minutes of Meeting *///*

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

· The meeting was convened at 5:35pm by Chair Kennedy, who presided during all aspects of the meeting.

· Commissioners in attendance: Chair Laurie Kennedy, Vice-Chair Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman, Chin Chi, Susan Wheeler, Joanne Kipnis, Kelly Jensen DVM, Vicki Guldbach of Animal Care and Control, Bill Herndon SFPD and Dan McKenna from Park and Rec.

· Commissioners absent: Jack Breslin, Health Department

2. Public Comment

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the October 9, 2003 meeting tabled due to technical difficulties. The secretary has apparently resigned and no copies of the minutes are currently available.

4. Chairperson's report-Chair Kennedy welcomed all Commissioners.

5. Committee/Commissioner Reports

· Commissioner Eckman reported a news story regarding SARS and its transmission through civets, which merchants claim have not been sold in the SF markets for over 2 years. She expressed interest in renewing activity on this subject.

· Commissioner Wheeler expressed similar interest.

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission

· Proposed establishment of a local ordinance that would prohibit veterinarians from declawing cats.

i. Commissioner Wheeler has been in touch with an aide from Supervisor Sandoval's office regarding a second meeting, possibly including the Paw Project and a cat behaviorist. She is waiting for details.

ii. Commissioner Franklin reported that the Koret's bill has been amended to include only large cats but encouraged all to send letters of support as individuals in support of the bill.

iii. Public comment

1. June Wilson reported that pamphlets regarding the issue should be made available again.

- Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package

- i. Commissioner Franklin reported that a revised version of the bite and run guidelines were submitted to Sgt. Herndon, SF Dog and the Health Department for feedback and will be resubmitted to Supervisor Dufty.

- ii. Commissioner Herndon stated that the guidelines need to be run by the city attorney; he will prioritize this.

- iii. Chair Kennedy commends the committee's excellent work.

- iv. Public comment

1. Lorella Harris wonders what happened to #7 on the agenda and recommends that this information is posted at every dog park in the city.

7. Old Business

- Cambridge-type ordinance for oversight of UCSF

- i. Commissioner Eckman reported that the proposed ordinance is done with the help of Susan Roy and Attorney Carter Dillard. Need to contact a city attorney with experience writing ordinances, suggests Commission contact Supervisor Gonzalez for last look at the ordinance and a suggested attorney.

- ii. Commissioner Franklin agrees to contact the Supervisor.

- iii. Public Comment

1. Bob O'Brian thanks Commissioner Eckman for her efforts and requests a copy of the ordinance; Commissioner Eckman suggest he look up the Cambridge ordinance online, as the proposed UCSF ordinance is still in draft form.

- iv. Chair Kennedy wonders if Commission should contact a Supervisor before contacting the city attorney, and Commissioner Eckman points out that Supervisor Gonzalez would be likely to contact a city attorney since he requested to see the ordinance in the first place. Commissioner Wheeler thanks Commissioner Eckman as well.

8. New Business

- Proposal to designate Trap-Neuter-Adopt-Return (TNR) as an officially approved means to address the homeless/feral cat issue in SF

- i. Commissioner Chi introduced the topic, proposing that the Commission urge the Board of Supervisors to officially sanction TNR. The program has been used successfully in other communities. Commissioner Chi emphasizes that no money will be asked from SF, just the backing needed to avoid harassment of the participants in the program. She has 30 letters of support.

ii. Public Comment

1. Bill Hamilton, the founder of Friends of Animal Care and Control, appreciates Commissioner Chi's efforts but advises against taking action at this time due to the current political climate. Education of the public and of the Supervisors is needed prior to action; he is happy to help in this endeavor.
2. Kristina Hoerler supports the resolution, points out that the individual efforts will continue despite any action taken by the Board.
3. Eva Hoerler supports the resolution and is finding it difficult to continue feeding the cats in her neighborhood.
4. L Danyielle Yacobucci feels that education is more important than the ordinance at this time and that much more information gathering and support are needed. Suggest we table the issue and gather support for action at the later date.
5. Lurilla Harris supports the idea and resolution, but feels that education is needed and that the Commission needs to emphasize education of the public more in general.
6. Martha Hoffman has practiced TNR in Golden Gate Park for years and has seen significant results. Supports Commissioner Chi's idea but concerned that the proposed resolution may affect other current resolutions facing the Board and that this is poor timing.
7. June Wilson supports the idea but feels timing is poor.
8. Jean Lungren favors TNR but agrees that timing for resolution is poor and anticipates more opposition that Commissioner Chi expects.

iii. The item was not moved and can be reagendaized at a later date.

• Proposal to restore Commission voting rights to city department representatives.

i. Commissioner Franklin introduced the proposal and feels that voting rights might offer more incentive to the city representatives to be more involved in the process. Item was moved by Commissioner Kipnis.

ii. Public Comment

1. Ron Cole wondered why the votes were banned and who can overrule this.
2. L Danyielle Yacobucci wondered why the Health Department was not represented tonight.
3. Lorilla Harris suggested that the City Attorney be consulted.

iii. Commissioner Eckman thought that previous Commissioner June Wilson had brought the ban forth about 7 years ago due to the potential for bias on the part of city employees. Commissioner Jensen pointed out that city employees chosen to represent their departments should be biased. Commissioner

Herndon stated that he attends meetings in an advisory capacity and tries to prioritize meetings. He does feel that city employees are obligated to vote with their department and that no vote allows him to more freely speak his mind. Commissioner Guldbeck states that her consistency representing her department would not be affected by the capacity to vote. Commissioner Kipnis pointed out that departments reps could have voting rights but recuse themselves as necessary. Commissioner Chi was present at the original vote and felt that conflict of interest was the reason to ban votes for city reps allowing the advisory relationship of these reps to be maintained. Commissioner McKenna felt that his views would be consistent with the head of Park and Rec and would not have advise outside his area of expertise. He pointed out that the opinions expressed would be public record and can be presented to the Board as needed for support. Chair Kennedy wonders if voting rights would be incentive to gather the department reps at the meetings. Commissioner McKenna said to let him know when agendized items affect Park and Rec and he will prioritize those meetings. Commissioner Jensen stated that she thought Jack Breslin had the same request. Commissioner Eckman felt that the opinions of the department reps were valuable outside their specific areas of expertise and their attendance was what the public expected but does not feel voting rights would be advantageous to the process.

iv. The item was withdrawn.

9. Approval of Draft Minutes (out of order)

- Commissioner Kipnis did not make the TNR calendar request.
- Commissioner Wheeler adds the continued absence of Park and Rec to Roll Call.
- Commissioner Eckman does not recall talking about an oversight committee for the Cambridge-type ordinance and wants that stricken.
- Commissioner Chi strikes "not against a ban" from her discussion of the declaw issue.
- Commissioner Eckman strikes her statement regarding Dr. Gross from the same discussion.
- Public Comment

i. Bob O'Brian strikes his comments about the oversight committee of the Cambridge-type ordinance.

- Commissioner Eckman moved to approve the revised minutes and Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

10. Public Comment

- L Danyielle Yacobucci announced the vote on Audubon Save the Quail program at noon next Wednesday. Site unknown, time may be different.
- Bob O'Brian wants to address abandoners of homeless cats and dogs in SF and define a penalty for these people. He also wants to do something to discourage breeders in the city. Commissioner Herndon stated that the penal code includes pet abandonment, Commissioner Guldbeck pointed out the difficulty of proving abandonment. Commissioner Wheeler feels that microchips can be an effective way

to identify abandoners.

11. Calendar Items

- Email requests encouraged by Chair Kennedy and are required by the Friday before the next meeting.
- Commissioner Chi wants to reagendaize the tabled resolution regarding having all animal issues in SF brought before the Commission and wants to involve the city attorney ASAP.
- Commissioner Kipnis wants to agendaize a discussion of postings of animal-related activities in SF on the Commission website.

12. Task Allotment

- Commissioner Wheeler to contact Supervisor Sandoval's office to continue discussion of cat declaw issue.
- Commissioner Franklin to contact Supervisor Gonzalez to discuss a city attorney to help with the Cambridge-type ordinance.
- Commissioner Herndon with get a response regarding the responsible dog guardianship legislation from the city attorney.
- Commissioner Franklin will send copies of the legislation to SF Dog, SPCA, Health Department and SFPD.

13. Adjournment-Commissioner Wheeler moves to adjourn, Commissioner Kipnis seconds.

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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[Discussion Item]

a. Welcoming remarks

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[Discussion Item]

a. Status of Supervisor support/acknowledgment of the need to prioritize sufficient enforcement of Federal, State, and local law as it applies to entrepreneurs of live animal markets.

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a. Discuss need for incoming Commissioners to conduct out-of-meeting research on the history of long-standing Commission items in preparation for meeting discussions.

[Commissioner Eckman] [Discussion Item]

b. Discuss expanding the Commission's website to include links to various San Francisco agencies, commissions, organizations, etc., in an effort to:

i. Increase both the Commission and the public's awareness of, and access to, up-to-date information about animal welfare and control issues, activities, and meetings within the city of San Francisco.

ii. Increase public awareness of the Commission and of the availability of a public forum to discuss animal welfare and control issues.

[Commissioner Kipnis] [Discussion/Action Item]

c. Proposed resolution urging the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to reaffirm that the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare is the official venue for studying and making recommendations on issues impacting the welfare, control, and maintenance of animals in public, private, and commercial care

within the City and County of San Francisco.

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Minutes of Meeting

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- a. The meeting was convened at 5:35pm by Chairperson Kennedy, who presided during all aspects of the meeting.
- b. Commissioners in attendance: Chair Laurie Kennedy, Vice-Chair Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman, Kelly Jensen, Susan Wheeler, Chin Chi, Joanne Kipnis, Vicki Guldbeck.
- c. Commissioners absent: Jack Breslin, Dan McKenna, William Herndon (with excuse)

2. Public Comment

- a. Richard Fong asked about dog play areas in North Beach and Golden Gate Park and Commission's ability to expedite development of them. Commissioner Kennedy responded that processes are in place for development.
- b. Bob O'Brian passed out a flyer regarding dog experiments at UCSF.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes

- a. Minutes amended and approved with corrections

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

- a. Welcome
- b. Update regarding a new secretary-spoke with a candidate who works for another Commission.
- c. Thank you to Commissioner Jensen for work on Minutes.
- d. Commute suspected as reason for Yvonne's departure.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Animal Markets-Susan Wheeler wants to revisit item with new administration, feels it would be timely with Avian Flu issue. Requests that Jack Breslin attend the next meeting and provide his input.
 1. Public comment-Richard Fong feels the Chinese community is defensive when he asks about the issue.

2. Commission discussion-various Commissioners participated, bringing up health issues, cultural perspectives, existing laws and difficulty enforcing them. It was suggested that if the current Board of Supervisors supports the issue then resources will be found to address it. Susan Wheeler and Joanne Kipnis will start research again.

6. Letters of Recommendation

a. Declawing Ban-Susan Wheeler reports that she has not yet had a face to face meeting with Supervisor Sandoval but is working on it. Update on the state Koret's bill: it was pulled from the business practices committee and applies only to large cats. This makes an SF ordinance applying to house cats more significant.

1. No public comment

2. Discussion-Vicki Guldborg pointed out need for statistics on surrender, euthanasia secondary to behavior problems and plans to generate a monthly report at the shelter. Laurie Kennedy sent information from the SPCA behavior department to Supervisor Sandoval

b. Responsible Dog Guardianship-Sherri Franklin sent copies of the proposed legislation to Animal Care and Control and the health department for feedback and will contact Supervisor Dufty once that is received. She is also waiting for letter of support from the SPCA.

7. Old Business

a. Cambridge-like Ordinance--Elissa Eckman reports that tomorrow she, Sherri Franklin, the pro bono lawyer who drafted the ordinance and Suzanne Roy from In Defense of Animals will meet with Supervisor Gonzalez for 30 minutes.

1. Public comment-Bob O'Brian provided a copy of a Vigil for Animals letter that was sent to the USDA regarding a dog experiment at UCSF that violates the Animal Welfare Act which may provide support for the ordinance. Lurilla Harris asked what is being done for other animals in experiments.

2. Discussion-Ordinance is all animal inclusive. Elissa Eckman spoke with Art Agnos who felt that UCSF should not receive any more space at the Mission Bay facility until this issue is addressed appropriately. Joanne Kipnis asked if Physicians for Responsible Medicine could help and will solicit a letter of support from this group to send to Supervisor Gonzalez.

8. New Business

a. Out of meeting research of issues on the part of incoming Commissioners-Elissa Eckman recommends that new Commissioners familiarize themselves with current issues before the Commission to avoid repetitive discussion during meetings. Material is filed in the office. She moves the item and Susan Wheeler seconds.

1. No Public comment

2. Discussion-Sources of information access to the office were discussed. Susan Wheeler suggested written summaries at the end of issues. Joanne Kipnis will work on an orientation manual for new commissioners. Action and discussion items were differentiated at Chin Chi's request. Item was reagendaized.

b. Web site-Joanne Kipnis wants to update and improve the website to increase public and Commissioner awareness of the issues as well as public awareness of the Commission's role. Sherri Franklin moves the item, Susan Wheeler seconds it.

1. No Public comment.

2. Discussion-Joanne Kipnis has collected a list of organizations for possible links to the commission's website that could also provide reciprocal links, Elissa Eckman suggested working with the webmaster to find out what is possible on the SFGate site.

3. Joanne Kipnis moves to progress on this item, Chin Chi seconds, and the item is passed unanimously.

c. Reaffirming the Official Role of the Commission-Chin Chi withdraws the item after speaking with the City Attorney about the Commission's jurisdiction.

9. Public Comment

a. Ron Cole is concerned that a draft of the Cambridge-like ordinance has yet to be provided to the public. Elissa Eckman points out that the draft is the work of the authoring attorney and is therefore covered by attorney/client privilege. Ordinance will be revealed in its final draft prior to submission to the Board of Supervisors, but Dr. Cole maintains that process should be open to the public as well as all documents involved.

10. Calendar Items

a. Chin Chi resubmits the proposal to urge Board support for Trap-Neuter-Release programs in San Francisco.

b. Sherri Franklin resubmits development of the Commission pamphlet.

11. Task Allotment

a. Susan Wheeler/Joanne Kipnis will restart Live Animal Market research and contact Jack Breslin.

b. Sherri Franklin will follow up on Responsible Dog Guardian Ordinance letters of support.

c. Joanne Kipnis will contact the Physicians for Responsible Medicine for letter of support for Cambridge-like ordinance.

d. Sherri Franklin/Elissa Eckman will meet with Supervisor Gonzalez regarding the UCSF ordinance.

e. Joanne Kipnis will contact the webmaster regarding improvements to our page as well as links.

12. Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm,

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 11, 2004

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman,
Kelly Jensen, Susan Wheeler, Chin Chi, Joanne Kipnis,
Jack Breslin, Vicki Guldbeck, William Herndon, Dan McKenna
.....

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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the February 12, 2004 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

- a. Welcoming remarks

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

- a. Status of Supervisor support/acknowledgment of the need to prioritize sufficient enforcement of Federal, State, and local law as it applies to entrepreneurs of live animal markets.
- b. Status of Commission website updates to include links to various San Francisco agencies, commissions, organizations, etc.
[Commissioner Kipnis]



6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

- a. Proposed establishment of a local ordinance that would prohibit veterinarians from declawing cats. This legislation would prohibit declawing surgical procedures, but would allow declawing for therapeutic purposes only – when the procedure is medically necessary to protect the cat's health.
- i. Status of Supervisor support regarding a local resolution and ordinance
[Commissioners Wheeler, Kennedy, & Franklin]
- b. Establishment of a “Responsible Dog Guardianship” legislation package to include:
 - i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.
[Commissioners Franklin, Guldbeck, & Herndon]
 - ii. Amendment of SF Health Code – Add Section 39: Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of a said dog, to exchange personal identification information and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.
[Commissioners Franklin, Guldbeck, Herndon]

7. Old Business

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Development of local “Cambridge-type” ordinance that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.
[Commissioner Eckman] [Discussion/Action Item]

8. New Business

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Proposal to designate Trap-Neuter-Adopt-Return (TNR) as an officially approved means to humanely address homeless/feral cat issues in the City and County of San Francisco.
[Commissioner Chi] [Discussion/Action Item]
- b. Proposal to separate agenda items 6b-i and 6b-ii (Responsible Dog Guardianship Package) into two separate items, instead presenting them to the Board as a combined legislation package.
[Commissioner Franklin] [Discussion/Action Item]

9. Public Comment

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10. Calendar Items

- Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps
[Commissioner Franklin] [Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

March 11, 2004

- San Francisco
Commission of Animal Welfare and Control
March 11, 2004

Minutes of Meeting

DOCUMENTS DEPT.

DEC - 7 2004

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- The meeting was convened at 5:37 pm by Chairperson Kennedy, who presided during all aspects of the meeting.
- Commissioners in attendance: Chair Laurie Kennedy, Vice-Chair Sherri Franklin, Kelly Jensen, Susan Wheeler, Chin Chi, Joanne Kipnis, Vicky Guldbeck, Bill Herndon, and Elissa Eckman
- Commissioners absent: none (with the exception of Jack Breslin from the Health Dept. and Dan McKenna from Rec & Park who attend on an as-needed basis)

2. Public Comment

- Deniz Bolbol stated that the San Francisco Zoo is unable to meet the environmental requirements for elephants and commented that recommendations made by the Board of Supervisors have not been met in the last four years. She added that she wanted the commission to put issue on the next agenda.
- Elliot Katz from In Defense of Animals stated that he had copies for the commissioners of the elephant's medical records and the causes of Calli's foot condition.
- Madeline B. stated there is sanctuary called the "The Elephant Sanctuary" in New York.
- Lisa Vittori inquired about the process in place for a dog play area. She requested a statement from the Animal Care and Control.
- Julie Ruffers stated that the Zoo Director said the facilities were adequate for the elephants. She commented however that the conditions were not adequate and they haven't been for the last five years.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes

- Minutes were amended and approved with corrections

4. Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks

- Welcomes everyone and mentions that chair terms are coming up in the month of April for herself, Joanne Kipnis, and Veterinarian Kelly Jensen. An appointment hearing will take place with the Rules Committee in April.

- She thanked Commissioner Jensen for doing the minutes for the past two months

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

a. Live-Animal-Markets

- Commissioner Kipnis stated she and Commissioner Wheeler have been doing research on past commission work done on this subject. They may bring the item to the table again at some point in the future
- No public comment

b. Website Updates

- Commissioner Kipnis shared updates she has made on the Commission's the website such as linking with other city commissions, agencies, and community groups relevant to animals.
- No public Comment

6. Tracking of Letters of Recommendation

a. Cat Declawing Ban

- Commissioner Wheeler reported that some changes have been made with regard to the state proposal to ban declawing on large cats. Legislative proposal to be heard in Sacramento on the 12th.
- No communication yet received from Supervisor Sandoval about our recommendation. She will continue follow-up.
- Commissioner Guldbeck reported that she would begin tracking declawed cats that enter ACC. A reporting system needs to be developed using the ACC software to do so.
- No public comment

b. Responsible Dog Guardianship legislation package

- Commissioner Franklin stated that the city attorney is reviewing the Humane Care of Dogs legislation we developed.
- Commissioner Kennedy stated that she would be getting letters of support for the Humane Care legislation from the SFSPCA and SF Dog.
- Commissioner Franklin stated that she would like to move forward with the Humane Care recommendation and questioned whether to present the legislation as a package or separately
- Commissioner Herndon described situations as the Vicious & Dangerous Dog hearing officer where he has seen fit to suspend dog ownership/guardianship for negligent and/or abusive people. The city attorney advised that the legal code be altered to accommodate that action.

- Commissioner Guldbeck described the penalties animal abusers currently face.
- The Commission decided to agendaize Commissioner Herndon's item next month for discussion.
- Public comment:
 - Lisa Vittori requested that a section be included in the Humane Care of Dogs legislation that would required exercise for dogs who are living in confined conditions
 - Commissioner Guldbeck discussed the difficulty in enforcing exercise requirements

7. Old Business

a. Live-animal testing: Cambridge-type ordinance

- Commissioner Kennedy stated that this item needed to be continued until next month.

8. New Business

a. Trap-Neuter-Adopt-Return (TNR) Proposal

- Commissioner Chi read an introduction of the item and included overview and reasons for bringing forth this proposal. She proposed a TNR resolution be recommended to the Supervisors to help control the overpopulation cat homelessness in SF. She added that the trap-neuter-adopt-return term has been successful. She added that New York has a program in place, which is working well, that helps homeless cats and endangered species.
- Commissioner Wheeler stated that if "TNR" is national recognized the word "adopt" should be taken out. She added that wording about adoption could be added as one of the "whereas" statements in the resolution body. She added that it's misleading and they should stick to the original terminology.
- Commissioner Franklin asked about who exactly would be responsible for the work involved in TNR. She stated that she had worked as a volunteer and from her experience there was never enough volunteers.
- Commissioner Wheeler shared that a group of feral cat volunteers have been working together since last summer to get more people on the volunteer team. She added that Martha Hoffman was a great resource and she worked on the proposal with Commissioner Chi.
- Commissioner Jensen stated that it's a catch-22. She would like to see this kind of proposal go to the board, but she doesn't want to bring it to the board and have it fail.
- Commissioner Wheeler stated that the feral cat volunteer group is continuing to lay the groundwork for this proposal and to have good people to support the work that goes into TNR. She added she would like to put it off for two months, giving the team time to accomplish more and ensure more support of the recommendation by the Supervisors.

- Commissioner Kennedy asked that the "adopt" language discussion be put on hold until a future date. She recommended that commissioners spend the next month determining what groups we need to include in future discussions in order to get buy-in prior to making recommendations to the Board.

- Public comment:

- Ms. Cooper who supports animals in the Bay area Hunters view Point supports the TNR proposal. She added that it was responsible and ethical.

- Ms. Herler supports the TNR resolution and thinks it's a good proposal.

- Elliot Katz supports the TNR resolution and thinks its makes since for the city to support the issue.

- Lisa Vittori supports Commissioner Chi's resolution.

- L'Danyielle Yacobucci stated she supports the TNR resolution but feels the word "adopt" should be removed. She also stated the SF is no longer the safest city in the country for animals.

- June Wilson supports Commissioner Chin's resolution but agrees the word "adopt" doesn't fit.

- Jennifer Drum supports the TNR resolution.

- Patty Hilton supports the TNR resolution and encourages the Commission to adopt it.

- Mary Ann Buxton - Feral Cat Coordinator at the SFSPCA stated she receives a lot of phone calls about feral cats and she would like the to see the resolution passed with the word "adopt" put on hold.

- Martha Hoffman has been doing trapping and adopting for 15 years supports the resolution. She added that "TNR" (without "adopt" in the title) is recognized and San Francisco should use the same language.

- Ms. Hall would be happy to see the resolution passed.

- Ms. Fong asked if could they require a health code requirement.

- Elsa Davis supports the resolution and feels that its good information for the public.

b. Proposal to recommend pieces of the "Responsible Dog Guardianship" package separately

- Introduced by Commissioner Franklin. She has received positive feedback about the Humane Care of Dogs legislation and mixed feedback about the Bite-and-Run legislation. She opened discussion about recommending them separately.

- Given that Commissioner Herndon would like to introduce add itional proposed legislation piece to the package next month, Commissioner Kennedy moved that we discuss this item in more depth next month.

- No public comment

9. Public Comment

- Bob O'Brien described experiments being done on dogs at UCSF. He wants the experiments and believes continual pressure will help. He requested a copy of the Cambridge Ordinance.
- Commission discussed their office and want to make sure they still have the space and voicemail

10. Calendar Items

11. Task Allotment and Next Steps

- Commissioner Kipnis - continue working on website updates
- Commissioner Kipnis - continue working on commissioner orientation packet
- Commissioner Kennedy - finish commission pamphlet
- Commissioners Kennedy & Herndon - meet to develop draft legislation for next meeting to suspend animal guardianship privileges
- Commissioner Kennedy - follow-up on support letters for the Responsible Dog Guardianship Package
- All - identify groups that would have interests in a TNR proposal
- Commissioner Wheeler continue follow-up with Sandoval regarding ban on declawing

12. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 7:26pm

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 8, 2004
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman,
Kelly Jensen, Susan Wheeler, Chin Chi, Joanne Kipnis,
Jack Breslin, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, Dan McKenna
Secretary: Crystal Stewart
.....

MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

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3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the March 11, 2004 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

a. Welcoming remarks

- i. Update on Commission vacancy appointment hearing with the Rules Committee – 4/28
- ii. Sunshine training for commissioners: Monday, May 3, 5:30-8:00
- iii. Next month: define work plan to maximize Commission/Commissioners' potential

6. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

- a. Status of Supervisor support/acknowledgment of the need to prioritize sufficient enforcement of Federal, State, and local law as it applies to entrepreneurs of live animal markets.

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors
[Discussion Item/Action]

- a. Establishment of a “Responsible Dog Guardianship” legislation package to include:
 - i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.
[Commissioners Franklin/Guldbech/Kennedy/Herndon]
 - ii. Amendment of SF Health Code – Add Section 39: Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of a said dog, to exchange personal identification information and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.
[Commissioners Franklin/Guldbech/Herndon]

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[Commissioner Chi] [Discussion/Action Item]
- b. Development of local “Cambridge-type” ordinance that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.
[Commissioner Eckman] [Discussion/Action Item]

8. New Business

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Discussion concerning the welfare and future of the remaining three elephants at the San Francisco Zoo and what, if any, action this commission should take. Potential guest speaker from the zoo.
[Commissioners Kipnis/Kennedy/Franklin] [Discussion/Action Item]
- b. Discuss development of animal protection legislation that would allow for the suspension of animal guardianship/ownership privileges, when deemed appropriate.
 - i. Discuss including this legislation with item 6, the “Responsible Dog Guardianship Legislation Package.”
[Commissioners Herndon/Kennedy] [Discussion/Action Item]
- c. Proposal to separate agenda items 6b-i and 6b-ii (and 8b) (Responsible Dog Guardianship Package) into separate items, instead of presenting them to the Board as a combined legislation package.
[Commissioner Franklin] [Discussion/Action Item]
- d. Hear description of a pigeon over-population problem at the Presidio Division of Municipal Railways and consider potential solutions. Guest speaker: Dr. Rajiv Bhatia
[Commissioner Breslin] [Discussion/Action Item]



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[Commissioner Franklin] [Review Item]

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

April 8, 2004

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2004

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II. Commissioners in Attendance: Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Franklin, Commissioners Eckman, Jensen, Chi, Kipnis, Guldbech, Herndon

Commissioners Absent: Commissioners Wheeler, Breslin and McKenna with excuse.

Public Comment None

Chair Kennedy requests and Commission agrees to skip to New Business

III. New Business

Item 8a - Discussion concerning the welfare and future of the remaining three elephants at the San Francisco Zoo.

Commissioner Kipnis introduced the topic, responding to public concern regarding the death of Calle and the health of the remaining elephants at the SF Zoo. She summarized the recent medical records of the animals as well as the 1999 Joint Zoo Committee Audit. Although veterinary care and keepers were found to be high quality, housing, weather and the physical plant were found to be deficient. A letter from Supervisor Ma was sent to the zoo outlining these concerns and requesting that the elephants be sent to a sanctuary. The Zoo director stated that he or any of his staff were unable to attend today's meeting, but that he would attend the May meeting. The last Joint Zoo Committee meeting addressed considerations regarding moving the elephants as well as Tinkerbelle's tuberculosis status, which is currently negative. Two sanctuaries have offered placement at no cost to the zoo.

Motion by Commissioner Kipnis to discuss item

Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Unanimous

Public Comment

- Pat Derby from the ARC 2000 Sanctuary, one of those offering placement to the animals, summarized her contact with the zoo as well as her opinion of the needs of elephants in captivity. She emphasized that zoo facilities are almost never adequate, moving elephants is traumatic and preparation for the event is

a major concern.

- Deniz Bolbol showed two videos, one featuring the ARC facility and one sponsored by the Citizens for Cruelty-free Entertainment featuring elephant footage from the SF Zoo in 1990, 1997, 2003, and 2004 as well as footage from the sanctuary in Tennessee offering placement to these elephants. She strongly encourages rapid action and notes that the absence of a zoo representative at this meeting seems telling. Further, Supervisors Ammiano and Gonzalez also support Supervisor Ma's letter to the zoo. She presented an idea for an interactive exhibit at the zoo centered on cameras following the elephants in their new homes if they are moved.
- Suzanne Royal from In Defense of Animals read Supervisor Ma's letter to the zoo director dated March 29, 2004. No response has been received.
- Elliott Katz, disseminated pictures of Calle's feet. He state two years ago he facilitated communication between David Anderson, former Zoo Director and Pet Derby, PAWS, Zoo staff went to the PAWS sanctuary but the elephants never got transferred. Elephants are on painkillers to mask the problems.
- Linda Fisher, who has taught Humane Education for a number of years. Stated that children do learn a great deal about animal without having to show them. Need to start thinking. Elephants are so large, we cannot replicate their nature environ. Children need to learn about animals, especially such large animals. Children taught her that they can learn without having the elephants present
- Lindsey Vurek - Support whatever the Commission can do to support these elephants. Zoo will not suffer economically from the loss of the elephants and encourage the Commission to support this issue. Make sure Tinkerbelle goes to the right place.
- Julie Ruffers, discussed the 1997 San Francisco Zoological Board of Directors report, regarding moving the elephants to the Disney Zoo. It stated that the move would leave a hole in the visitor experiences. Been leafleting out at the zoo and an overwhelming concern from zoo-goers about the living concerns, as well as concerns about the conditions of other animals.

Commissioner Jensen left the meeting.

Commissioner Kennedy encouraged the public to write to the Board of Supervisors regarding this matter.

Motion by Commissioner Eckman to adopt a resolution to send the three remaining elephants to a sanctuary in CA or Tennessee and send that resolution along with a cover letter to the SF Board of Supervisors as soon as possible.

Seconded by Commissioner Kipnis

Unanimous

Commissioners Eckman and Kipnis will work together on developing the cover letter to the Board.

Item 8b - Discuss development of animal protection legislation that would allow for the suspension of animal guardianship/ownership privileges, when deemed

appropriate.

Commissioner Guldbeck stated that a draft legislation packet is ready to be presented to Supervisor Dufty within the next week. Packet includes the following:

1. Adding subsection (f) to the existing SF Health Code 41.12, Duties of Owners. This subsection will include minimum care requirements. Guldbeck stated that the purpose of this subsection is to ensure the humane treatment of all companion dogs including sentry and guard dogs throughout the city and county of San Francisco.
2. Adding subsection (g) to the existing SF Health Code 41.12, Duties of Owners. This subsection will require owner/guardians to exchange information when a bite occurs. "It shall be the responsibility of any dog owner/guardian to exchange information whenever their dog bites another human or domestic animal."
3. Replace the word "shall" with "may" in section 42.2, Registration of Vicious Dogs, of the SF Health Code. (Furthermore, the keeping of a registered dog shall be subject to the following conditions:) Guldbeck stated that this proposal would give Hearing Officers more flexibility based on each individual case.
4. Add the existing Food and Agriculture Code Section 31646, Conditions for Prohibiting Ownership, to Section 42.2, of the San Francisco Health Code, as subsection (e). This allows the Hearing Officer to prohibit the owners of a vicious and dangerous dog from owning any dog for the period of 3 years.

Public Comment

- Elliott Katz - use owners/guardians
- Ron Cole - suggested that a specific type of tether be included, pulley, for example. Suggested that the requirements include a list of types of tether.
- Linda Fisher - Nothing specific about what proper exercise is. Include something more specific about exercise. Commissioner Guldbeck stated that we could not detail what exercise is - cannot enforce it.
- Elliot Katz - support modifications to the code

Commission Discussion - None

Motion by Commissioner Kennedy to add subsection (f) to the existing SF Health Code Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Unanimous

Motion by Commissioner Kennedy to accept legislation to suspend guardianship for 3 yrs

Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Unanimous

Motion by Commissioner Kennedy to present legislation as one package to SF Board of Supervisor to include the humane care for outdoor dogs

Seconded by Commissioner Kipnis

Unanimous

Commissioners Guldbeck and Franklin will make an apt with Supervisor Duffy. Commissioner Kennedy provides a letter of support from the San Francisco SPCA.

Commissioner Guldbeck will get a letter of support from the Chief of Police and from DA Kamala Harris.

Item 8d. Hear description of a pigeon over-population problem at the Presidio Division of Municipal Railways and consider potential solutions.

Commissioner Breslin is not in attendance to discuss item 8d, Pigeon Overpopulation. Item will not be addressed at this meeting.

V. Old Business

Item 7a - Proposal to designate Trap-Neuter-Adopt-Return (TNR) as an officially approved means to humanely address homeless/feral cat issues in the City and County of San Francisco.

Commissioner Chi stated that this proposal is not asking the city to do anything, simply asking the city to officially support this program. Approves of the program as a good program to humanely reduce the homeless cat populations.

Commissioner Guldbeck stated that she was not sure what we would want the city to officially endorse - how can we regulate something of this magnitude. How much involvement does the Commission want to have with something so controversial. Should leave it alone, otherwise it may end up bring up more opposition.

Commissioner Eckman stated that she was not sure the city has to make this an official program. Inviting a lot of problems by bringing attention to it.

Commissioner Kennedy - What do we want to achieve that we are not already achieving? Agreed that getting more support and education and public awareness is a great idea. Still unclear as to why the Commission wants the city to get involved in this. We are not talking about legislation, and there may be some direct conflict with existing legislation currently on the books. If we bring it up, those conflicts become bigger issues.

Public Comment

- Kristina Hoerler- effort to TNR have been sabotaged by certain individual and if there was official city support, they might not go out of their way to make TNR a problem.
- Elliot Katz - support TNR program symbolically have the city come out and make a statement. However, concern about bringing this forward may bring out cat haters and instigate more havoc.
- Jane Greenwald - no harm in giving moral support, but if any risk of misinterpretation, then I would not want to see this go forward for city approval.

Motion by Commissioner Chi to support TNR resolution

Seconded by Commissioner Kipnis

1 in favor

Motion failed

Item 7b - Development of local "Cambridge-type" ordinance that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.

Commissioner Eckman reported that the ordinance, which is not being prepared by the Commission, has been sent to city attorney for review. Should have copies of the proposed ordinance and resolution at the May Commission meeting

Public Comment

- Kristina Hoerler - hopes the UCSF oversight committee will include Dr. Katz

VI. Approval of Draft Minutes from March 11, 2004 meeting

Motion by Commissioner Kennedy to approve the minutes

Seconded by Commissioner Eckman

Unanimous

VII. Chairperson's Report

1. Commissioner Kennedy reported that the terms of Commissioners Kipnis, Kennedy, and Jensen are up. Tentative date for Rules Committee hearing is April 28th.
2. Sunshine Training will take place on May 3. City Attorney Rosa Sanchez suggests the all Commissioners attend, as there have been some changes.
3. Commissioner Kennedy and Kipnis have been working on a process for how the Commission can maximize its potential. Will be discussed at our next meeting.
4. Goodbye to Commissioner Jensen.

VII. Committee Reports/Commissioner Reports

1. Live animal markets - Commissioner Kipnis reported that there is no update at this time. Kipnis met with Commissioner Jensen to discuss other avenues to address these issue.

Public comment

- Bob O'Brien - April 17 - 25th is world week for animals in laboratories

VIII. Calendar Items

1. Commission Orientation package

IX. Task Allotment and Next Steps

1. Commissioner Kennedy will send letterhead to Commissioner Eckman
2. Commissioners Eckman and Kipnis will work on cover letter to the Board along with resolution regarding the future of the elephants at the SF Zoo
3. Commissioner Franklin and Guldbeck will meet with Supervisor Dufty to present responsible dog guardian package
4. Cambridge style ordinance - ongoing work

Meeting adjourned 8:03 p.m.

[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information](#)

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

May 13, 2004

— San Francisco Commission of
— Animal Control & Welfare

≡ MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, May 13, 2004
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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.....
Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman,
Joanne Kipnis, Susan Wheeler, Chin Chi, Mara Weiss
Jack Breslin, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, Dan McKenna
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Mailing Address: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453, San Francisco,
CA 94102-4689

Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074

Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc

Commission Chairperson: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

_ Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

_ Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or
recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the
items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes

[Discussion/Action Item]

a. Approval of the draft minutes from the April 8, 2004 meeting

- b. Appeal to revisit and re-vote on the approval of the draft minutes from the March 13, 2004 meeting

[Commissioner Chi]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

- a. Welcome and introduction of Commissioner Mara Weiss
- b. Congratulations to Commissioner Kipnis for her reappointment to the Commission
- c. Secretary update
 - i. Who will volunteer to do the minutes for this month's meeting?
- d. Next Month: Officer elections (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary)

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

- a. Status of Supervisor support/acknowledgment of the need to prioritize sufficient enforcement of Federal, State, and local law as it applies to entrepreneurs of live animal markets.

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

- a. SF Zoo update: Provide an update on the status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo

[Commissioners Kipnis/Eckman/Franklin]

- b. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package to include:
 - i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.
 - ii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Add Section 39: Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of a said dog, to exchange personal identification information and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.
 - iii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Allow for the suspension of animal guardianship/ownership privileges for three years, when deemed appropriate be the Vicious & Dangerous Dog Hearing Officer.

[Commissioners Franklin/Guldbach/Herndon/Kennedy]

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Development of local "Cambridge-type" ordinance that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.

[Commissioner Eckman]

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Discuss generating a follow-up letter regarding the recommendation of the Commission to send the two remaining elephants at the SF Zoo to the PAWS sanctuary in California.

[Commissioners Kipnis/Franklin/Eckman]

- b. Discuss and define work plan to maximize Commission/Commissioners' potential

[Commissioners Kennedy/Kipnis]

- c. Discussion of new Commissioner Orientation Packet

[Commissioner Kipnis]

- d. Discuss letter of appreciation to former Commissioner Kelly Jensen

[Commissioners Kipnis/Kennedy]

8. Public Comment

_ Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

9. Calendar Items

_ Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one

week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item] [Commissioner Franklin]

11. Adjournment

Disability Access: Room 408 is wheelchair accessible. The closest accessible BART Station is Civic Center, three blocks from City Hall. Accessible MUNI lines serving this location are: #42 Downtown Loop, the #71 Haight/Noriega, the F Line to Market and Van Ness, and the Metro stations at Van Ness and Market and at Civic Center. For more information about MUNI accessible services, call 923-6142.

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The following services are available upon request at least two working days prior to the meeting: American Sign Language interpreters, use of a reader during a meeting, or a sound enhancement system. Accessible seating for persons with disabilities can be made available. Following a meeting, meeting proceedings can be made available in alternative formats. For information or to make arrangements, contact Carla Vaughn at 252-2500 (voice) or 252-2550 (TDD).

In order to assist the City's efforts to accommodate persons with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity or related disabilities, attendees at public meetings are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various chemical based products. Please help the City accommodate these individuals.

Policy on Cell Phones, Pagers, and Electronic Devices: The ringing of and use of cell phones, pagers, and similar sound-producing electronic devices are prohibited at this meeting. Please be advised that the Chair may order the removal from the meeting room of any person(s) responsible for the ringing or use of a cell phone, pager, or other similar sound-producing electronic devices.

Know Your Rights Under the Sunshine Ordinance: Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This Ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance (Chapter 67 of the San Francisco's Administrative Code) or to report a violation of the Ordinance, contact Donna Hall at the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force, City Hall, Room 409, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102-4683; Office (415) 554-7724; Fax (415) 554-7854; E-mail: Donna_Hall@ci.sf.ca.us

Citizens interested in obtaining a free copy of the Sunshine Ordinance can request a copy from Ms. Hall or by printing Chapter 67 of the San Francisco Administrative Code on the Internet, at <http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/bdsupvrs/sunshine.htm>

Attention: Individuals and entities that influence or attempt to influence local

legislative or administrative action may be required by the San Francisco Lobbyist Ordinance (SF Administrative Code 16.520 - 16.534) to register and report lobbying activity. For more information about the Lobbyist Ordinance, please contact the Ethics Commission at 1390 Market Street, #701, San Francisco, CA 94102, telephone (415) 554-9510; fax (415) 703-0121 and web site <http://www.ci.sf.ca.us./ethics>

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

May 13, 2004

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Draft Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2004

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I Call to Order and Roll Call - The meeting was convened at 5:35pm on April 8, 2004 by Chairperson Kennedy, who presided during all aspects of the meeting.

II. Commissioners in Attendance: Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Franklin, Commissioners, Chi, Kipnis, Guldbeck, Herndon, Weiss. Commissioner Eckman will be joining the meeting later.

Commissioners Absent: Commissioners Breslin and McKenna with excuse.

Public Comment: None

III Approval of Draft Minutes

1. Approval of April 8, 2004 Minutes

Commissioner Chi suggested that Commissioners' individual votes be reflected in the minutes when a motion is not voted on unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Kennedy to approve the April minutes with changes

Seconded by Commissioner Eckman

Unanimous

2. Appeal to revisit and re-vote on the approval of the draft minutes from the March 13, 2004 meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Kennedy to revisit the March minutes

Seconded by Commissioner Kipnis

Unanimous

Motion by Commissioner Kennedy to modify March minutes based on Commissioner Chi's changes.

Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Unanimous

III. Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks

1. Welcomed new Commissioner Mara Weis, DVM. Commissioner Weis introduced

herself.

2. Congratulated Commissioner Kipnis on her reappointment to the Commission for a two-year term. Commissioner Franklin congratulated Commissioner Kennedy's reappointment to the Commission for a two-year term.

3. There is no Commission secretary at this time. Must get someone who works for San Francisco administrative services. Due to uncertainty about the budget, the city is not announcing the position right now.

4. Officer elections for Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary are next month.

Commissioner Kennedy thanked Commissioner Kipnis for doing the minutes last month.

Public Comment - None

IV. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

1. Status of Supervisor support/acknowledgment of the need to prioritize sufficient enforcement of Federal, State, and local law as it applies to entrepreneurs of live animal markets.

Commissioner Kipnis reported that there were no updates. Commissioner Kennedy suggested that this item be taken off the agenda until the Commission is ready to take up this issue.

Public Comment - None

V. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

1. SF Zoo update. Commissioner Kipnis provided an update of what has transpired since the last Commission meeting. The update will also set the stage for a New Business item regarding proposed amendments to Supervisor Ma's resolution regarding the transfer of the elephants.

Kipnis reported that some Commissioners attended Joint Zoo Committee meetings, provided public comment at Board of Supervisors meeting, and testified at a special hearing of City Services Committee. Kipnis also provided a brief chronology of events/actions regarding the elephants. The critical issues that came out of the City Services Committee meeting including:

- Zoo stated it is reevaluating the elephant program and will transfer elephant to credible sanctuary or accredited zoo.
- Role of AZA/SSP regarding their control over the transfer of the elephants was a point of contention. Zoo stated it had to wait until it received a recommendation in order to move the elephants.
- According to the zoo, it could take up to 6 months to move the elephants - this was of great concern to the Committee
- The zoo stated that it could lose its accreditation if the transfer is not done in accordance with the AZA/SSP, however, there are documented cases of other

elephant transfers that did not follow SSP recommendations and accreditation was not lost.

Public Comment

- Holly Rose - Zoo representative Nancy Chan said that the SSP people need to be targeted. Spoke to Mayors office, she was told that a plan is in place to send elephants to a sanctuary to San Diego.
- Lisa Vitori - Grateful that Commission is working on this issue. Useful if we change our language to guardianship.
- Denise Bolbol - Distributed an affidavit that summarized the AZA/SPP's lack of legal authority. Bolbol encouraged the Commission to consider the permanent closure of the elephants exhibit at the zoo while we still feel the pain of the death of Calle and Maybelle. She thanked the Commission for working on this issue.
- Elliott Katz - It would be counter productive to put any language regarding the future of the exhibit in the amended resolution. The resolution from Ma did not give sense of immediacy. It included language regarding complying with AZA, which will only stall the process of transferring the elephants. The amended resolution needs to reflect immediacy of this situation.
- Richard Kwan - What is the reason why male elephants are not present at the zoo?

Commissioner Chi stated the most immediate issue is to transfer the elephants to a sanctuary, not a zoo. Supports Denise's suggestion that the Commission recommend closing of the elephant exhibit permanently, however, not if it would distract from Ma's resolution.

Commissioner Kipnis suggested that a more effective approach would be to address this issue following the Board's vote on the resolution.

Commission Wheeler agreed that the future of the elephant habitat should be addressed, but not now.

2. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" Legislation Package:

Commissioner Franklin stated that they were waiting to hear back from the city attorney. Supervisor Dufty's office does not want to meet with them until the city attorney has reviewed the legislation package. Commissioner Guldbeck stated that she spoke with the city attorney and should hear back in another week.

Public Comment - None

Commissioner Kipnis stated that the SPCA publicly thanked the Commission in their e-mail newsletter for the proposed legislation.

VI. New Business

1. Discuss and define work plan to maximize Commission/Commissioners' potential.

Commissioner Kennedy requested that Commissioners think about ways the Commission can best maximize its potential including how we conduct meetings and how we work between meetings. Commissioners will bring ideas for ground rules to

the June Commission meeting.

Public Comment - None

2. Discussion of New Commissioner Orientation Packet

Commissioner Kipnis presented a draft of a new Commissioner orientation packet for new Commissioners. Kipnis reviewed the basic components of the packet and asked for feedback. Commissioners will e-mail comments.

Public Comment - None

Commissioner Franklin said that the packet is very helpful especially during the first few months of a new Commissioner's term.

3. Discuss letter of appreciation to former Commissioner Kelly Jensen

Commission Kipnis presented a draft letter of appreciation to former Commissioner Kelly Jensen.

Public Comment - None

Motion by Commissioner Kennedy to send commendation letter to Kelly Jensen

Seconded by Commissioner Eckman

Unanimous

4. Discuss generating a follow-up letter regarding the recommendation of the Commission to send the two remaining elephants at the SF Zoo to the PAWS sanctuary in California.

Commissioner Eckman arrived at the meeting at 6:30.

Commissioner Kipnis presented a draft cover letter and proposed amendments to Supervisor Ma's resolution regarding the transferring of the elephants, which is on the agenda for the City Services Committee meeting next week. The Commission agreed that the cover letter should be shortened to one page, including bulleted highlights of the amendments; the resolution should also be abbreviated to one page.

Public Comment

- Holly Rose - Spoke with Zoo representative Nancy Chan who said the zoo couldn't legally do anything without AZA and SSP. Rose stated that the zoo is procrastinating; do not want to deal with PAWS.
- Lisa Vitori -Appreciated AZA language in the resolution; thanked the Commission for establishing the city's ownership of the animals. Angered by the fact that Rec. and Park do not come to the Commission meetings. Suggested that the Commission contact the Mayor and the Rec. and Park Commission directly and take charge of this issue.
- Elliott Katz - Thanked the Commission for putting time and energy into this issue.

Commissioner Eckman suggested that the Commission send a copy of the resolution and other information to the Mayor; also try to set up a meeting with the Mayor to inform him of the urgency of this matter.

Commissioner Chi supports Commissioner Eckman's suggestion that the resolution emphasize the urgency of the transfer and that the elephants be moved to PAWS

Commission Wheeler supported the suggestion of meeting with the Mayor.

Motion by Commissioner Kennedy that Commissioners Kipnis, Eckman and Franklin work together to redraft the cover letter and resolution and send to City Services Committee by Monday of next week, and to try to set up a meeting with the Mayor to discuss this issue.

Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Unanimous

5. Development of local "Cambridge-type" ordinance that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.

Commissioner Eckman stated that there was nothing new to report.

Public Comment -

- Lisa Vitori - Cambridge type ordinance is under effective, worthless. Suggested going after UCSF contractors and not waiting for the ordinance - it makes no difference in Cambridge.
- Richard Kwan- What type of authority would the Commission have over UCSF testing? Elliott Katz - Not helpful to have something as ineffective as the Cambridge ordinance. Need to put something in place here that would have much more impact than what was done in Cambridge.

Commissioner Eckman stated that as far as oversight is concerned, the Commission is limited in that we can do - only make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Kennedy asked for clarification with regard to any loopholes that would allow an unbiased oversight committee to have access to UCSF labs and that would be acceptable to the Board of Supervisors. Elliott Katz said that the ordinance being developed is stronger than the Cambridge ordinance. The Commission needs to put forth a recommendation to the Board stating that they need to take action in response to UCSF's noncompliance with promises that were made by UCSF at earlier Board hearings (to abide by animal cruelty laws). Since UCSF has not abided by the laws, the city can now come back and move to institute an oversight committee.

Elliott Katz suggested that he meet with Commissioners Franklin and Eckman to develop a recommendation to the Board providing a rationale as to why oversight is necessary; why a Cambridge style ordinance is needed. Should the Board accept the recommendation, they could then discuss what that oversight committee would look like. The new ordinance, which is almost ready, could then be presented to the Board.

VII. Public Comment

- JR Yager - Spoke out against how the TNR program is run. Referred to a letter he wrote to the Commission re: trap neuter return, a look at practices in SF. In reality, the cats are returned to, in some cases, unhealthy and dangerous places and left to starve. The TNR program does not provide any follow through on the cats. Are we doing the right thing by simply sterilizing them? Commissioner Guldbeck stated that TNR has really exploded and there is a need to have a system in place to assess how it is going, who the people are who are feeding and monitoring the colonies. Need to register colonies and the people who are following up on the colonies. ACC can then track what is going on and who is involved. Commissioner Wheeler will speak with JR since she has done a great deal of work in this area.
- Ron Cole - Commission is not on the city flow chart. Kipnis will check on that.
- Lisa Vitori - Expressed concern about the Dog Advisory Committee meeting. Asked the Commission to sponsor a request to Park and Rec. to account for the dog policy, evaluate the policy and see if it is working. The Dog Advisory Committee is untrustworthy.

VIII. Calendar Items

Commissioner Kennedy asked that Commissioners e-mail next months agenda items to her.

VIX. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

Commissioner Franklin reviewed task allotments:

1. All Commissioners submit input to Kipnis regarding the Commissioner orientation packet.
2. Commissioners Guldbeck and Franklin will follow-up with city attorney regarding the dog legislation.
3. Commissioner Kennedy will send a commendation letter to Kelly Jensen.
4. Commissioners Franklin, Eckman and Kipnis will refine amendments to Supervisor Ma's resolution and send it to the City Services Committee. Also, contact Mayor's office for a meeting.
5. Commissioners Eckman and Franklin will contact Suzanne Roy, IDA, to work on a recommendation to the Board regarding USCF treatment of laboratory animals.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. May 13, 2004.

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

June 10, 2004

— San Francisco Commission of
— Animal Control & Welfare

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, June 10, 2004
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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10/04

Mailing Address:

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074
Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc
Commission Chairperson: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the May 13, 2004 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

- a. Settlement update regarding city lawsuits brought against Petco for mistreating animals and overcharging customers.

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

- a. SF Zoo update: Provide an update on the status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo

[Commissioners Kipnis/Eckman/Franklin]

- b. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package to include:

- i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.
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- iii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Allow for the suspension of animal guardianship/ownership privileges for three years, when deemed appropriate be the Vicious & Dangerous Dog Hearing Officer.

[Commissioners Franklin/Guldbach/Herndon/Kennedy]

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Development of a local ordinance that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.

[Commissioner Eckman/Kennedy/Franklin]

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Discussion on possible action to ban the al of foie gras within San Francisco.
Special Guest Speaker: Gourmet Chef, Richard Sharon

[Commissioner Franklin]

b. Officer Elections

- i. Chair
- ii. Vice-Chair
- iii. Secretary

- c. Discuss and define work plan to maximize Commission/Commissioners' potential

[Commissioners Kennedy/Kipnis]

8. Public Comment

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9. Calendar Items

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item] [Commissioner Franklin]

11. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

June 10, 2004

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2004

I Call to Order and Roll Call - The meeting was convened at 5:40 pm on June 10, 2004 by Chairperson Kennedy, who presided during all aspects of the meeting.

II. Commissioners in Attendance: Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Franklin, Commissioners, Chi, Kipnis, Guldbeck, Herndon, Wheeler, Weiss, DMV

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Commissioner Eckman will be arriving soon.

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Commissioners Absent: Commissioners Breslin and McKenna.

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Public Comment: None

III Approval of Draft Minutes

1. Approval of June meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Wheeler to approve the May minutes with changes

Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Unanimous

II. Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks

Commended the Commission on all of the work that has been done

Pubic Comment: None

IV. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

1. Settlement update regarding Petco

Commissioner Guldbeck reported that there had been a settlement between the city and Petco regarding Petco's mistreating animals and overcharging customer. Petco is to pay the city \$50,000. Petco is now required to comply with certain requirements including training staff. The settlement did not include stopping the sale of pets.

Commission Franklin will prepare a letter to the SF Board of Supervisors commending Animal Care and Control and this accomplishment.

Commissioner Eckman arrives

V. New Business - out of order

1. Discussion on possible action on ban the sale of foie gras within San Francisco -

Special guest Gourmet Chef, Richard Sharon spoke about factory farming foie gras and provided video footage of the making of foie gras. He described how cruel and unnecessary foie gras farming is:

- Ducks and geese are fed massive amounts of food each day resulting in their livers becoming 12 times their normal size - a very painful disease
- They are fed through electric pumps which often cause severe injury
- Many birds die when their stomachs explode
- All have drastically sick and miserable lives until they are slaughtered.
- Workers at these farms feed up to 500 birds, three times a day and are given bonuses if they kill fewer than 50 of the 500 from ruptured stomachs.
- Universal agreement by doctors, chemists, and nutritionists that foie gras is unhealthy
- It has been banned in 9 other countries, including Israel, which was the 4th largest producer in the world.

Sharon asked the Commission to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that foie gras be completely banned in San Francisco.

Public Comment:

Justin Freeman - Support Richard Sharon's plea to ban foie gras

Jennifer Bloom - also support Sharon's request to ban foie gras

Elliot Katz - In light of Sen. Burton's legislation, the Commission should recommend a ban on Foie gras. IDA has filed a lawsuit to the producers of foie gras in Sonoma

Commission Discussion

Contact reported Dan Noyes who brought this story to the public and have him do a follow-up story. Commission Guldbeck will contact Nuys.

Highlight this issue at the next Commission meeting and invite anyone interested in this issue to attend and provide testimony.

Commissioner Kipnis will post an announcement on Craig's list informing the public the that Commission will be considering a recommendation at its next meeting to ban foie gras.

Motion by Franklin to state for the record that the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare condemns the production of foie gras

Seconded by Kipnis

Unanimous

VI. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

1. SF Zoo Update. Commissioner Franklin reported that the SF Board of Supervisors approved the City Services Committee recommendation that the zoo send its two remaining elephants to a sanctuary as soon as possible - with one change to the language. Instead of "Board of Supervisors directs the San Francisco Zoological Society...", it now reads, "Board of Supervisors urges the San Francisco Zoological Society..."

Public Comment:

Elliot Katz - thanked the Commission for their hard work on this issue.

2. Establishment of a Responsible Dog Guardianship legislation packet. Commission is waiting for a response from city attorney Rosa Sanchez in order to move forward.

VII. Old Business

1. Development of a local ordinance that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing

The Commission reviewed a copy of a draft cover letter to the Board of Supervisors and a draft resolution and ordinance to establish a local oversight of the care and use of animals and UCSF labs.

Public Comment:

Elliot Katz - Suggested that the ordinance include language regarding a move towards non-animal based research.

Commissioner Eckman will work on the draft letter concerning UCSF and the Board of Supervisors resolution, which passed in 1999, concerning treatment of animals at UCSF.

VIII New Business, Con't

1. Officer Elections

Motion by Commissioner Franklin moved to reelect Commissioner Kennedy to Commission Chair

Seconded by Kipnis

Unanimous

Motion by Commissioner Guldbeck moved to reelect Commissioner Franklin to Vice Chair

Seconded by Kennedy

Unanimous

Motion by Kennedy that Commissioners Kipnis and Wheeler serve as co-

secretaries

Seconded by Franklin

Unanimous

Public Comment: None

2. Discuss and define work plan to maximize Commission/Commissioners' potential.

Commissioner Kennedy presented an overview of how the Commission can maximize our work during and in between meetings, including clarifying the Commission's role as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors, ground rules for preparing and presenting agenda items, for following up on action items, and reminder that as individuals we are not to represent the Commission position on issues not yet agreed upon by the Commission.

Public Comment: None

IX. Calendar Items

Commissioner Kennedy asked that Commissioners e-mail next month's agenda items to her.

X. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

Commissioner Franklin reviewed task allotments:

1. Commissioner Guldbeck will get more information about laws pertaining to foie gras farms. She will contact Dan Noyes about some coverage of this issue
2. Commissioner Kipnis will post on Craig's list about upcoming meetings and about the foie gras issue.
3. Commissioner Eckman will work on draft letter concerning UCSF and the board's resolution passed in 1999 concerning treatment of animals at UCSF
4. Commissioner Franklin will write up statement and send to Senator Burton' office with regards to the commission's condemning of foie gras.
5. Commissioner Franklin will work on getting commendation from the BOS for the hard work of ACC concerning the judgment against Petco.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

July 8, 2004

San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & Welfare

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, July 8, 2004
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman,
Joanne Kipnis, Susan Wheeler, Chin Chi, Mara Weiss
Jack Breslin, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, Dan McKenna

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(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

5
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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

_ Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

_ Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the June 10, 2004 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

a. Update regarding the governor's proposal to repeal the Hayden Act

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. SF Zoo update: Provide an update on the status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo

[Commissioner Kipnis]

- b. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package to include:

- i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.
- ii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Add Section 39: Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of a said dog, to exchange personal identification information and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.
- iii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Allow for the suspension of animal guardianship/ownership privileges for three years, when deemed appropriate be the Vicious & Dangerous Dog Hearing Officer.

[Commissioners Franklin/Guldbach/Herndon/Kennedy]

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Discussion on possible action to ban the al of foie gras within San Francisco.
[Commissioner Franklin]

- b. Development of a local ordinance that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.

[Commissioner Eckman/Kennedy/Franklin]

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

9. Public Comment

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10. Calendar Items

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11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item] [Commissioner Franklin]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

July 8, 2004

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

Draft Meeting Minutes

From the July 8, 2004 meeting

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I. Call to Order and Roll Call - The meeting was convened at 5:39 on July 8, 2004 by Chairperson Kennedy, who presided during all aspects of the meeting.

a. Commissioners in Attendance: Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Franklin, Secretaries Kipnis and Wheeler, Eckman, Weiss DVM, and Wheeler

b. Commissioners absent: Commissioners Breslin, Mc Kenna, Guldbeck and Chi, all with excuse.

II. Public Comment: Lurilla Harris spoke on a point from Robert's Rules of Order stating that when a new material is introduced, a new public comment period should be provided.

III. Approval of Draft Minutes with the following changes: Add to Status and tracking of letters of recommendation that Commission is waiting for Rosa Sanchez to comment on the Establishment of a Responsible Dog Legislation Package. Spelling of Dan Noyes is Noyes, not Nys. Always have DVM after Mara Weiss's name to show she is the veterinary representative on the Commission. No further comments by commissioners or public.

- a. Motion by Commissioner Franklin to approve the June minutes with changes.
- b. Seconded by Commissioner Eckman.
- c. Unanimous.

IV. Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks.

a. Welcomed everyone and thanked Commissioners who had been doing work on their own in the last month

V. Committee Reports and Commissioner Reports.

a. Commissioner Kennedy noted that Governor Schwarzenegger's proposal to repeal the Hayden Act as a State budget-cutting cost had been defeated. The Governor reversed himself in response to a massive lobbying effort on the part of the state's animal lovers. No public comment.

VI. Status and Tracking of Letters of Recommendation Approved by the Commission Requesting Action by the Board of Supervisors.

a. SF Zoo Update, to provide information on the Status of the zoo's elephants. Commissioner Kipnis stated that the zoo had a recent press conference and has decided to send the 2 elephants, Tinkerbelle and Lulu to the PAWS sanctuary. Timing of transfer is still unclear Pat Derby agrees that a month is about the right time to get the elephants ready for their transfer.

1. Public Comment:

2. Bob O'Brien told of going to a press conference of Zoo Director Molenado, who indicated that the zoo was working on 'elephant time' to get the elephants moved as soon as possible. They are trying to deal with any health and logistical problems the move presents.

3. No further comments.

b. Establishment of A Responsible Dog Guardianship Legislation. Update by Commissioner Franklin. Rosa Sanchez, the city attorney, has gone through the Dog Care section of the legislation and with the help of Carl Friedman is hoping to have it written up as an ordinance within the month. It then should be ready to go to the Supervisors.

1. No public comment

VII. Old Business:

a. Continuation of previous month's discussion of possible action to ban the sale of 'foie gras' within the City of San Francisco. Update from Commissioner Franklin who wrote a position statement regarding 'foie gras' (copies on table for the public to read). Also sent an e-mail to Senator Burton that we have voted to support his legislation to ban foie gras within the state.

1. Public Comment:

– Richard Sharon, mentioned meeting Commissioner Chi at an animal rights meeting. Talked about the contents of the packet he handed out to each Commissioner. It contains a list of state legislators sympathetic to passing the anti-foie gras bill in Sacramento. The packet also includes a copy of the state bill. Mr. Sharon says he is unhappy that the Burton Bill allows foie gras to phase out over 7 years. He says this is a long time for ducks and geese to continue to suffer horribly. The phase out won't be until 2012. Sharon calls on the commissioners to take a stand separate from supporting the Burton Bill. Local Assemblymen Mark Leno and Leland Yee both support the Burton bill.

– Bob O'Brien says he has heard that part of the 'deal' to get the Burton bill passed will mandate that Animal cruelty charges be dropped that have

been leveled against the producers of Foie gras in Sonoma.

2. Commissioner Comment:

– Commissioner Wheeler says the time frame for the bill to take effect is so long as to make it very weak.

– Commissioner Franklin says it gives the Commission the opportunity to try to do something to speed up action to get foie gras banned sooner.

– Commissioner Wheeler thinks getting an ordinance passed by the Board of Supervisors will be very difficult.

– Commissioner Eckman points out that just banning the sale of foie gras locally, or even in Sonoma County, isn't necessarily going to stop the industry from springing up somewhere else.

– Commissioner Kennedy says she sees 3 different points; 1. Can the Bill in Sacramento be amended so it doesn't take so long to go into effect? 2. Move to push for a local ordinance to ban the sale of Foie gras locally, 3. Look to ways to educate the public about the cruelty involved in the production of foie gras.

– Commissioner Franklin isn't sure about finding a member of the Board of Supervisors who will support it; she would like to look into putting a measure to ban foie gras on the San Francisco ballot. This would be a way to educate the public about how terrible the process is to make foie gras. Discussion of how to get a ballot measure.

– Supervisor Weiss wonders about the wording of the position against foie gras. We can't ban the eating of foie gras, only the production, sales and service.

– Supervisor Kipnis say she imagines that animal rights groups were trying to get as good a bill as possible in Sacramento.

– Discussion of timing on moving forward on a ballot issue against foie gras. Commissioners agree they need to discuss ideas that have been talked about. Ron Cole comment from floor. He says that he has been told that the Burton bill had no chance of getting out of committee without an agreement for a long phase out.

– Commissioner Franklin suggests she e-mail PETA to get them involved in front of restaurants that serve

foie gras. Also get in touch with IDA and Animal Nation to see if there is educational literature available.

– Request of Lurilla Harris to speak is deemed out of order because it is not time for Public Comment. Comment already taken.

– How does the Commission develop partnerships with other groups?

– Commissioner Kennedy reminds the Commission that its jurisdiction is to make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

– Next steps, Commissioner Eckman will contact PETA, Commissioner Franklin will look into a ballot measure, Commissioner Wheeler will see if she can learn anything from elected officials, Commissioner Kipnis will get in touch with IDA Commissioner Kipnis points out that the bill has a section mandating no lawsuits against the foie gras industry during the phase out period. Commissioner Kipnis asks if there are any further ways of looking at the problem. It is agreed there will be more discussion at the next Commission meeting.

a. Development of a Local Ordinance that would Provide Critical Oversight of UCSF live-Animal Testing. Commissioner Kennedy says that the work is close to done, "that we are ready to move". Some editing needs to be done on what was passed out last month. It is ready to go to Supervisor Gonzales and he can then meet with the city attorney, Commissioner Franklin says that we have done everything that Supervisor Gonzales wanted from the Commission on this issue.

1. Public Comment

– Some discussion not identified.

– Richard Fong (?) What kind of cooperation is going on this issue throughout the city?

2. Commissioner Comment

– Commissioners are all happy that this issue has been resolved.

VIII. New Business: No New Business

IX. Public Comment on Items Not on Agenda.

– Richard Fong wonders if there will ever be elephants at the zoo again.

– Bob O'Brien talks about the current 'Vigil for Animals' newsletter that focuses on upcoming and current experiments on dogs.

X. Calendar Items

2. For the August meeting Commissioner Wheeler wants to reintroduce discussion and possible action on a Trap/Neuter/Return Resolution.
3. Neither Commissioner Franklin nor Wheeler will be at the Commission meeting in October.

XI. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

1. Commissioner Franklin will work on Foie gras issue
2. Elissa will contact PETA to see about campaigning, also law from Israel
3. Commissioner Wheeler will see what she can find in Europe on foie gras, Commissioner Kipnis will see what she can find by way of ordinances:
4. Commissioners Eckman, Franklin and Kennedy will get together on the UCSF Oversight Ordinance and also e-mail Ron Cole.
5. Commissioner Franklin will wait for the City Attorney to get back on the Responsible Dog Guardian ordinance.
6. Commissioner
7. Wheeler will be working on T/N/R
8. Commissioner Weiss will see if she can get information on laws regarding the geese and ducks.

XIII. Meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm, July 8, 2004.



[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information](#)

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

August 12, 2004

San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & Welfare

MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, August 12, 2004
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Mailing Address: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074
Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc
Commission Chairperson: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the July 8, 2004 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. SF Zoo update: Provide an update on the status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo

[Commissioner Kipnis]

b. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package to include:

- i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.
- ii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Add Section 39: Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of a said dog, to exchange personal identification information and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.
- iii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Allow for the suspension of animal guardianship/ownership privileges for three years, when deemed appropriate be the Vicious & Dangerous Dog Hearing Officer.

[Commissioners
Franklin/Guldbach/Herndon/Kennedy]

c. Development of a local ordinance and resolution that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.

[Commissioner Eckman/Kennedy/Franklin]

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Discussion on possible action to ban the sale of foie gras within San Francisco. [Commissioner Franklin]

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Proposal to designate Trap-Neuter-Adopt-Return (TNR) as an officially approved means to humanely address homeless/feral cat issues in the City and County of San Francisco. [Commissioner Wheeler]
[Discussion/Action Item]

8. Public Comment

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item] [Commissioner Franklin]

11. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

August 12, 2004

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

Draft Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2004

I. Call To Order and Roll Call: The meeting was convened at 5:39 on August 12, 2004, by Chairperson Kennedy who presided during all aspects of the meeting.

a. Commissioners in Attendance Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Franklin, Commissioners Chi, Weiss DMV, Wheeler, Guldbeck, Herndon

b. Commissioners absent with excuse: Commissioners Eckman, Kipnis

II. Public Comment

III. Approval of Draft Minutes: Minutes approved without changes

IV. Chairpersons Report and Opening Remarks

Public Comment

V. Committee Reports, Commissioner Reports

VI. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors a. Commissioner Franklin reported for Commissioner Kipnis that the 2 SF Zoo elephants still have not been moved to their new home at the PAWS sanctuary, but it should happen soon.

b. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors. Includes Amendment to the SF Health Code-Add Section 39 Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of said dog, to exchange personal identification, information, and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.

Amendment of Health Code-Allow for the suspension of animal ownership/guardianship privileges for three years, when deemed appropriate by the Vicious and Dangerous Dog Hearing Officer.

Public Comment

Commissioner Comment

c. Development of a local ordinance and resolution that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.

Public Comment

Commissioner Comment

Old Business

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a. Discussion of how the Commission can make its voice heard in condemning the production of foie gras in Sonoma County. Shall the Commission back a ballot initiative making it illegal for restaurants in San Francisco to sell foie gras? Can the Commission contact the SF Restaurant trade association and see if they are amenable to ending the sale of foie gras.

Public Comment:

a. Richard Sharon urged the Commission to find a way to work against the sale of foie gras in San Francisco. Likes the idea of a ballot initiative.

New Business:

a. Proposal to designate Trap-Neuter-Return as the officially approved means to humanely address homeless/feral cat issues in San Francisco. Commissioner Wheeler spoke on why trap-neuter-return is the best most humane and least expensive method to control the City's homeless cat population. SF/SPCA has been supporting sterilization of feral cats for many years. Makes sense to get the city officially behind it.

Public comment:

A number of people spoke for a resolution, for a resolution only if the quality of the cats lives was good, and against a resolution. Several PETA people spoke against T-N-R following the official position of their organization. People who spoke included: JR Yeager, Krisrina Blachere, Kelle Kacmarcik, Debra Garcia, W. Ray Smith, Scott Anderson, Steve Kehrli, Nancy Purcell. Alan Hopkins (Audubon Society), Arthur Feinstein (Audubon society), Lisa Vittori, Richard Fong, L-Danyielle Yacobucci.

Due to technical difficulties, the tape recording the meeting till this point, was not working. This was discovered and corrected at the very end of public comment

Richard Fong asking if T-N-R made male cats less aggressive.

Commissioner Comment. Commissioner Kennedy thanks people and notes the work done by a feral cat group. No official word from the SPCA, but they are sure to support it given their long-term commitment to the sterilization of feral cats. Carl Friedman has been supportive, but wants to make certain the cats continue to be cared for after sterilization. Supports Trap-Neuter-Return and Care for. Commissioner Wheeler questions some of the negativity of JR Yeager's long presentation and picture packet. Compares feral cats in JR Yeager's presentation to the homeless people living in the same area of the city.

Commissioner Gulbech received a letter from PETA opposing T-N-R. She continues that as the representative of SF Animal Care and Control, she can state categorically that ACC will never give up the Partnership with the SPCA and no way will animals be trapped and killed any more. Must look carefully at any resolution that allows people to feed more than 3 cats in their backyards. It is a landlord issue and a Health Department issue. ACC is in support of a resolution, but need to be careful. Feral kittens go to foster programs. Commissioner Chi answers question of how this T-N-R Resolution differs from her. Her resolution would legally reaffirm peoples' right to practice T-N-R. She wants discussions will all groups. Commissioner Gulbech again says that under the Partnership with the SPCA, cats may be rounded up, but they will not be killed. Agreed that it is a complicated issue, needs more work. Commissioner Franklin concerned about cats' "quality of life".

Commissioner Kennedy says it sound like we need a stronger T-N-R program, need the support of city agencies. Dan Mc Kenna will be at the Commission next month and should be involved. Commissioner Gulbech suggests a number of parties concerned with the T-N-R issue meet. Commissioner Weiss says there is a veterinary component

in caring for feral cats. Commissioner Kennedy suggests that T-N-R discussions be put off for a few months after the September meeting since Commissioner Wheeler will be away in October.

Public Comment:

a. Lisa Vittori wants to know how she can find out more information about the commission on Animal Control and Welfare. She also expresses suspicion of the Audubon Society motives for coming out on the feral cat issue.

b. L-Danyielle Yacobucci asks if there is any way for the Animal Commission to get a secretary.

c. JR Yeager asks about the relation of homeless people and their animals. Commissioner Guldbeck says there is something coming.

d. Alan Hopkins of the Audubon society says they have changes their attitudes somewhat toward feral cats and T-N-R. Also talks about coyotes in San Francisco, and how the practice of 'live catch' is killing albatross.

e. Richard Fong concerned about stem cell research and rats.

Calendar Items:

a. Commissioner Guldbeck will be inviting Dan Mc Kenna next time who will introduce the Professional Dog Walker License/ Permit for discussion

b. Commissioner Chi is concerned that she was misunderstood when she was talking about the city and trap and Kill.

Task Allotment

a. Commissioner Kipnis and Weiss will be in touch to talk about a ballot measure to ban the serving of foie gras.

b. Commissioner Franklin will contact Rosa Sanchez and Supervisor Alioto-Pier about the Responsible Dog Guardian Ordinance.

c. Commissioners Wheeler and Guldbeck will work together on T-N-R

Meeting adjourned at 7:50



Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

September 9, 2004

San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & Welfare

MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, September 9, 2004
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman,
Joanne Kipnis, Susan Wheeler, Chin Chi, Mara Weiss DVM
Jack Breslin, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, Dan McKenna

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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074
Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc
Commission Chairperson: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the August 12, 2004 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. SF Zoo update: Provide an update on the status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo

[Commissioner Kipnis]

b. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package to include:

- i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.
- ii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Add Section 39: Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of a said dog, to exchange personal identification information and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.
- iii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Allow for the suspension of animal guardianship/ownership privileges for three years, when deemed appropriate be the Vicious & Dangerous Dog Hearing Officer.

[Commissioners
Franklin/Guldbach/Herndon/Kennedy]

c. Development of a local ordinance and resolution that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.

[Commissioner Eckman/Kennedy/Franklin]

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Discussion on possible action to ban the sale of foie gras within San Francisco. [Commissioner Franklin]

b. Proposal to designate Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) as an officially approved means to humanely address homeless/feral cat issues in the City and County of San Francisco.

[Commissioner Wheeler] [Discussion/Action Item]

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Discussion of a San Francisco professional dog walkers' contract, outlining responsible business practices. Provide the community with a reference list of participating professional dog walkers available for hire.

[Commissioner Guldbeck] [Discussion/Action Item]

8. Public Comment

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9. Calendar Items

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item] [Commissioner Franklin]

11. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

September 12, 2004

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2004

1. Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:45 pm on September 12, 2004

Present: Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair, Franklin, Commissioners Chi, Kipnis, Guldbeck, Weiss DMV, McKenna, Herndon

2. Public Comment

L- Danyielle Yacobuci requested that the individuals who speak during public comment state what organization they are from.

3. .Approval of Minutes

Commission Wheeler moved to approve the minutes with changes
Seconded by Commission Franklin
Unanimous

4. Chair's Report

Commissioner Kennedy welcomed Commissioners and public to the meeting.

5. Status and Tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors.

SF Zoo update

Commissioner Kipnis reported that Lulu and Tinkerbelle are still at the San Francisco Zoo. Tinkerbelle is being trained for the move to PAWS, however, Lulu is not, since the crate that she will be transported in has not been moved to her enclosure. Pat Derby (PAWS) has been visiting both Lulu and Tinkerbelle periodically and assisting with the training of Tinkerbelle. No set date for transfer at this time.

Public Comment

Elliot Katz - Zoo is not acting in good faith - stalling with Lulu. The crate that has been paid for by Pat Derby is not yet in place. IDA has spoken with Supervisor Matt Gonzalez. AZA is now threatening to pull accreditation from the Detroit Zoo. Katz suggests that someone on the Commission speak with Supervisor Gonzalez to put pressure on the zoo to transfer the elephants.

Commissioners Franklin will follow-up with Supervisor Gonzalez on this issue.

Commissioner Kipnis will follow-up with Pat Derby on the status of the move.

Responsible Dog Guardianship Legislation Package

Commissioner Franklin reported that City Attorney, Rosa Sanchez has reviewed the

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legislation. Supervisor Dufty's office will probably sponsor the legislation. All that needs to be done is final paper work.

UCSF Live Animal Testing

Supervisor Gonzalez is in communication with UCSF about this issue.

Public Comment

Elliot Katz - The USDA filed charges against UCSF for violations of animal welfare act. This complements the proposed resolution being sponsored by the Commission.

Commissioner Eckman arrives.

6. Old Business

Foie Gras

Commissioner Wheeler stated that Richard Sharon suggested that we hold off on this issue for a couple of months given that supervisor elections are coming up.

Commissioner Weiss - AVMA's Animal Welfare Committee is looking into action of the three farms that produce foie gras. Pathologist looking into this issue.

Commissioner Eckman suggested that we get copies of the article for the next Commission meeting.

Public Comment

Richard Sharon - developed outline for foie gras campaign. Encouraged the Commission to go for the ballot initiative this spring with the possibility of getting 4 supervisors to sign on. Willing to approach supervisors. Otherwise, Brian Rogers, Director of Animal Protection League in San Diego, has an infrastructure in San Francisco to get signature campaign going starting in January. Organized demonstration at Agua every Friday. Looking at other alternatives to raise public awareness. Thanked the Commission for its support.

Elliot Katz, - Veterinarian profession not oriented to animal issues, for the most part. IDA filed law suit against Sonoma Foie Gras - Vet at UC Davis testified that it is not inhumane to produce foie gras. No need for a scientific study to determine that it is inhumane to produce foie gras. IDA's campaign includes activist standing in front of restaurants with graphic posters where foie gras is served. Will be doing this in major cities across the country.

Kelly Casmerisck - supports ban of Foie Gras - would vote against it if on ballot

Commissioner Eckman - medical facts on health consequences of eating foie gras are important, makes it more irrefutable

Commissioner Chi - suggests that posters against foie gras should also show how bad it is for human health.

Commission Kennedy -Dr. Weiss look into ballot measure issue, people who want to participate in IDA poster campaign need to contact Dr. Katz, and Mr. Sharon will be speaking with Supervisors regarding where they stand on this issue.

Trap Neuter Return

Commissioner Wheeler - will ask to table the issues of TNR resolution since she will be away for a few months. Wheeler is getting together a group of people who have a stake in this resolution. ACC and SPCA are dealing with the tragic death of the SPCA Chief Vet., which is another reason to slow down this process temporarily

Showed video of TNR and reviewed TNR packet she put together.

Commissioner Eckman stated that we needed more facts before we move forward on this.

Commissioner Guldbeck - the direction we need to go is how do we adopt good practices and agree on what is humane in the treatment of feral cats. Wait until a meeting takes place including ACC and SPCA Directors.

Motion moved by Eckman to hold Commission discussion until this meeting has taken place between Daniel Crane, Carl Friedman

Seconded by Commissioner Wheeler

Unanimous

Public Comment

Ron Cole - Commission needs to pass out packets under discussion to the public so it can be seen by all.

Lisa Comassi San Diego is a strong supporter of this issue. Reduced by 50% number of cats euthanized. Must be a collaboration

Paula Catakis - trapped and sterilized over 300 cats. Those involved in this work only want the best of the cats.

Kimi Sharky - new to dealing with feral cats. SPCA provided a lot of medical support and other supports for her feral cat. Many people who are willing to go above and beyond the call of duty to save these feral cats. Please help support this effort.

Lana Basel- Read letter from Barbara Miller, who is convinced that TNR is the best policy for the feral cats. Lana - very effective way to manage feral cats in an urban environment. Alley Cat Rescue is an excellent resource. Many of these cats were once domesticated animals who have been abandoned. We must not turn our backs on these wonderful creatures.

Bill Hamilton - cats' environment are mostly okay for these cats - can't criticize a cat's environment on how it looks alone. If cats appear healthy and well fed, they are getting food from somewhere, or they are newly feral and can be trapped. Proof of success is through attrition.

Nancy Weurfel - Feels her responsibility to take care of feral cats and give back to her community. Reduction in aggressive behavior after neutering. Educated others in the neighborhood about TNR

L-Danielle Yabacucci - Thanked JR Yeager all of this hard work. Made the lives of many feral cats better.

Corrected some errors in the report that JR put together.

25 cats left in hands of a homeless man who disappeared - there were others who helped care for those cats

Abandoned cat colony unaltered males and females - only found one unaltered male - females were overweight not pregnant

No ongoing health maintenance system for feral. SPCA offers 25% discount.

Never asked for help to trap a cat with an abscess.

No one puts cats through cats through TNR and does not take care of them.

Emma Clifford - SF feral cat program is important globally. Gallipolis Islands now using the SF feral cat programs a model. Very successful program. Others are looking at SF for how to manage feral cats.

Janet Cunningham - Teaches human education through SPCA. Manages 6 colonies
Grateful member of the feral cat team. Support TNR

Judy Miller - Addresses issue of vet care for feral cats. Care givers do take care of feral cats, shell out a lot of money for their medical care.

Cindy Rutter - Cat Assistance Team - Caretaker becomes guardian of feral cat. Cat assistance team offers a variety of services for feral cats. Behind the scenes, they take donations for ill cats. Up to the vet to determine extent of health of the feral cat.

Nadene May - Members of Cat Assistance team go out on a limb to help these cats. Possible to adopt a number of feral cats - Euthanasia has a place when a cat is terminally ill. Most colonies, cats are doing well.

Mary Huber - Caring for feral cats for over 20 years. Many of these cats live healthy lives.

Maryann Buxton - SPCA feral cat program - The cat assistance team and people in community are amazing, willing to do TNR and educate people in the community. TNR resolution, keep focused on Spay/Neuter.

Scott Anderson - Should be illegal to euthanize or slaughter any healthy animals. However, forcing cats to live out their lives in desperate conditions much worse. Read a statement from HSUS on TNR. Urged everyone to read the HSUS web site on their TNR program. More complete and humane program than the SF feral fix .

Debra Garcia - Not everyone can pay for medical bills. Care is the next step after TNR. Hope that this issue continues and not wait until the meeting between ACC and SPCA.

Elliot Katz - Believes that it is the mandate of the Commission to address the care issue of feral cat after TNR. Guidelines from the Commission not good for feral cat communities.

JR Yeager - Feels that he has been heard. Will continue to take care of colonies and believe that this process will turn into something good, Did not start this campaign to

kill cats, started the campaign for those colonies that do not have caretakers. Does not want to see a resolution pass that requires a cat not be returned unless there is a caretaker in place .

Martha Hoffman - for every story told there is an opposite story, Alley Cat Allies, SFSPCA both have a wealth of knowledge, PETA does not have a good handle of the issues - dead wrong, not true that feral cat lives horrible lives, suggest pro bono care from vet community

New Business

Proposal for Professional Dog Walker's Contract

Commissioner McKenna- informal guidelines for dog walkers. Plans to amend the park code to limit nonprofessional dog walkers to three dogs in a play area at any one time - professional dog walkers will be allowed to have six dogs at any one time. Also create a database of dog walkers who have received certificates. These individuals will also be on the web site.

Establish a safe ratio of caregivers to safe number of dogs.

Goal is to implement a joint certificate program between Rec and Park and Animal Care and Control. Would issue a badge, cost \$25.00 to cover the cost of issuing a badge. These dog walkers who receive a certificate would have acknowledged a specific set of rules and regulations.

Looking for endorsement from Commission of this new program

Public Comment

Lisa Walsh - professional dog walker. Not great selling point for professional dog walkers, since anyone can start a dog walking business - very easy. Agrees with the proposed limit on number of dogs - the 6 to 1 ratio.

Elliot Katz - asked for an explanation of what is meant by nuisance, what creates the nuisance in the park.

Unknown - Don't set ourselves up for a problem by using the terms ethical guidelines.

Debra Garcia - what happens if something goes wrong and the dog walker has a certificate and listed as such. Is there any recourse for this?

Commissioner McKenna stated that the draft contract will go before Rec and Park and Board of Supervisor so that the public has an opportunity to comment.. Also get the word out to vets and major pet stores.

Commissioner McKenna -City attorneys need to review this proposal before it goes to the Board of Supervisors

Public Comment - none

Calendar items for next Commission meeting - Commissioners will e-mail items to the Chair.

Commissions Wheeler and Franklin will not be at next meeting.

Next Steps

Commissioner Franklin will follow up with Dufty about sponsorship of responsible dog guardian package, also call Supervisor Gonzalez to put pressure on the Zoo to move the elephants.

Commissioner Kipnis will call Pat Derby regarding on progress on moving Lulu.

Commissioner Weiss - will follow up on AVMA research on Foie Gras

TNR will be tabled until January, and in the meantime we will await results of meetings with Daniel Crane, Carl Friedman, L-Danielle, JR Yeager,

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

October 14, 2004

— San Francisco Commission of
= Animal Control & Welfare

≡ MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, October 14, 2004
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman,
Joanne Kipnis, Susan Wheeler, Chin Chi, Mara Weiss DVM
Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, Dan McKenna

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CA 94102-4689

Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074

Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc

Commission Chairperson: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

_ Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

_ Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the September, 9 2004 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

a. No meetings in November or December - Next meeting January 13, 2005

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Update on the status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo

[Commissioner Kipnis]

b. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package to include:

- i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.
- ii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Add Section 39: Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of a said dog, to exchange personal identification information and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.
- iii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Allow for the suspension of animal guardianship/ownership privileges for three years, when deemed appropriate be the Vicious & Dangerous Dog Hearing Officer.

[Commissioners Franklin/Guldbeck/Herndon/Kennedy]

c. Development of a local ordinance and resolution that would provide critical oversight of UCSF live-animal testing.

[Commissioner Eckman/Kennedy/Franklin]

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Discussion on possible action to ban the sale of foie gras within San Francisco. [Commissioner Franklin]

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Discussion on a possible action to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that there be a ban on elephants at the San Francisco Zoo.

[Commissioner Kipnis] [Discussion/Action Item]

9. Public Comment

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11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item] [Commissioner Franklin]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

October 11, 2004 (Draft)

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Draft Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2004

1. Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:45 pm on October 11, 2004

Present: Chair Kennedy, Commissioners Chi, Kipnis, Eickman, Guldbeck, Weiss DVM, Herndon, and Chi

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Absent with reason - Commissioners Wheeler and Franklin

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2. Public Comment

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None

3. Approval of September Minutes

Commissioner Eckman moved to approve the minutes with changes

Seconded by Kipnis

Unanimous

4. Chair's Report

Koretz Bill signed by the Governor - declawing of wild cats is a misdemeanor.

Commission will not be meeting in November due to Veterans Day. The Commission does not meet in December.

5. Committee Reports - None

6. Status and Tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors.

SF Zoo update

Commissioner Kipnis reported that Lulu and Tinkerbelle are still at the San Francisco Zoo.

Commissioner Kipnis reported that the crate is in place however, they can't get the door of the barn open, thereby delaying Lulu's transport to PAWS. Pat Derby has been witnessing staff working with Tinkerbelle, but Lulu has not been progressing. Mollinedo planning on sending Pat Derby a letter stating that the Zoo plans to retain ownership of the elephants.

Public Comment

Denis Bolbol - the reason that the crate is in place is because Commissioner Franklin and Elliot Katz met with Supervisor Gonzalez who was persistent with the zoo. Mollinedo knew there was a problem with the barn door since last Spring. Lulu will not see the crate for another month since the part to fix the door is on order. Mollinedo is talking about new exhibit for elephants - 5 -10 acres.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Guldbech - Matt Gonzalez office has been in contact with Animals Care and Control (ACC) regarding issues with the zoo. Discussion about the zoo's ability to manage the zoo are underway. Possibility that ACC will take on control of the management of the animals at the zoo.

Move to new business.

8a. Discussion on a possible action to recommend to the board of Supervisor that there be a ban of elephants at the San Francisco Zoo.

Commissioner Kipnis presented a recommendation regarding banning elephants from the zoo. The recommendation was based on the following reasons

- The Zoo's elephants suffer from serious health problems, and two of four elephants died within three months of each other earlier this year;
- Confinement of elephants in small zoo enclosures is known to cause serious degenerative health conditions, including the types of foot and joint problems that have been plagued each of the Zoo's elephants for many years
- The elephant enclosures at the San Francisco Zoo were found by a 1999/2000 City Budget Analyst to be "out of date" and "especially poor;"
- The damp, foggy climate at the Zoo contributes to the degenerative health conditions from which the Zoo elephants suffer, according to experts consulted in the 1999/2000 performance audit;
- The San Francisco Zoological Society has limited funds and numerous financial demands as a result of the many outdated and inadequate enclosures for other species in addition to elephants; and
- All funds raised by the Zoo should be directed toward improving conditions for animals currently residing at the Zoo instead of creating a costly new elephant exhibit with new elephants brought to the Zoo for this purpose.

Commission agreed that the recommendation should focus only on what we know about the situation, which is the poor climate and financial limitations.

Public Comment

Denise Bolbol believes that an ordinance to ban elephants from the zoo will be voted on by the Board of Supervisors before the end of the year. She asked the Commission to reiterate what it had stated about the future of elephants at the zoo in it's April 12th letter to the Board of Supervisors.

Commission Discussion

Space issue - not enough space for the elephants to thrive and the climate then negatively impacts elephants' joint and bone disease - due to fog and dampness. Commission also needs to continue to keep the focus on Lulu and Tinkerbelle. Given that Supervisor Gonzalez is preparing an ordinance to present to the Board of Supervisors at their next meeting, the Commission agreed to hold off on the recommendation for now and see what happens with the proposed ordinance.

Commissioner Guldbeck will contact Commission Kipnis with a copy of the proposed ordinance.

Old Business

6b. Responsible Dog Guardianship Legislation Package

Dufty in favor of legislation and the next step is to present the legislation at the next of the City Services Committee.

6c Oversight of UCSF live-animal testing

Commissioner Franklin did speak with Supervisor Gonzalez - been in contact with UCSF on this issues.

Eckman - composition of oversight committee needs to be discussed. Does the city have the authority to be part of the oversight structure. Working with Suzanne Roy, IDA, on this issue.

Public Comment

None

7a - Possible ban on the sale of foie gras

Richard Sharon stated that we do not have a spring election in 2005 . Will have to wait until November to have this issue on the ballot. Suggested that we start meeting with Supervisors in February .

Public Comment

None

Task Allotment

Commissioner Guldbeck will inform Commissioner Kipnis about the status of the zoo ordinance being developed in Supervisor's Gonzalez's office.

Commissioner Kennedy will follow-up with Supervisor Dufty on the responsible dog guardianship legislation.

Commissioner Franklin will follow up with Supervisor Gonzalez's office regarding live animal testing at USCF

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.



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[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare](#) >> [Meeting Information](#)

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

January 13, 2005 (Cancelled)

The meeting of the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare scheduled for January 13, 2005 has been cancelled.

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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February 10, 2005

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San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & WelfareSAN FRANCISCO
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MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, February 10, 2005
5:30 PMRoom 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman,
Joanne Kipnis, Susan Wheeler, Mara Weiss DVM
Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, Dan McKenna

Mailing Address:

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074

Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc

Commission Chairperson: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

_ Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

_ Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or
recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the
items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the October 14, 2004 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

- a. Animal Cops San Francisco playing on Animal Planet
- b. Upcoming Commission vacancy(s)
- c. Expanding website to include more news and information
- d. Secretaries: Reclassification of roles and responsibilities

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Update on the current and future status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo
- b. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package to include:
 - i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.
 - ii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Add Section 39: Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of a said dog, to exchange personal identification information and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.
 - iii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Allow for the suspension of animal guardianship/ownership privileges for three years, when deemed appropriate be the Vicious & Dangerous Dog Hearing Officer.

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Discussion on possible action to ban the sale of foie gras within San Francisco. [Commissioner Franklin]

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Endorsement potential legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a three-year period.

[Commissioner Franklin]

9. Public Comment

_ Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

10. Calendar Items

_ Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item] [Commissioner Franklin]

12. Adjournment

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various chemical based products. Please help the City accommodate these individuals.

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare**February 10, 2005**

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San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2005

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 5:40 pm, February 10, 2005

Present: Chair Kennedy, Commissioners Kipnis, Eckman, Weiss DVM, Herndon, Wheeler, and Franklin.

Absent with reason - Commissioners Guldbeck and Chi

2. Public Comment

Richard Fong asked about role of UCSF oversight committee with regard to stem cell research.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the October 14, 2004 Meeting.

Commissioner Kipnis moved to approve the minutes.

Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Passed Unanimously

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks**a. Animal Cops San Francisco playing on Animal Planet**

Chair Kennedy commended Commissioner Herndon on his work/performance in Animal Cops. Commissioner Hendon discussed the experience.

b. Upcoming Commission vacancy(s)

Chair Kennedy informed the Commission that Commissioner Chi has resigned. Chair Kennedy will contact the Rules Committee regarding this vacancy, which will need to be filled. In addition, the Commission will have 3 additional vacancies in April. Commissioners Wheeler, Franklin and Eckman terms will expire at that time.

Chair Kennedy will inform the Rules Committee of these vacancies. Vacancy notices will be posted on the Commission's website.

c. Expanding website to include more news and information.

Commission Kipnis suggested that the Commission's web site be expanded to include information presented at Commission meetings, as well as in between meetings, that would be of interest to the public. The Commission agreed that this was a good idea, with the understanding that the format of the web site will still need to be consistent with other city government web sites. Chair Kennedy asked the Commissioners to route all documents to her for posting.

d. Secretaries: Reclassification of roles and responsibilities

Chair Kennedy clarified the roles of the two Commission secretaries. Commissioner Kipnis will be responsible for taking minutes at all meetings and Commissioner Wheeler will be responsible for checking the Commission office for mail and voice mail messages. In the event that Commissioner Kipnis is absent, Commissioner Wheeler will take the minutes.

5. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

a. Update on the current and future status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo

Commissioner Kipnis provided an update on Tinkerbelle and LuLu. Tinkerbelle is doing well, eating well, taking her medication and socializing with other elephants - she is very happy according to Pay Derby who runs PAWS. However, her feet still pose a problem. They are still in very bad shape. Pat Derby is working with the vet at the SF Zoo and the medical team on scheduling a time to take a culture of Tinkerbelle's feet to find out the cause of the problem. The procedure, which includes anesthetizing Tinkerbelle, was planned for February 18, but that was cancelled by the vet at SF Zoo. The procedure is still on hold at this time.

LuLu is scheduled to be transported to PAWS the first week in March.

No public comment.

b. Establishment of a "Responsible Dog Guardianship" legislation package to include:

i. Development of a SF ordinance, which would outline/define humane and responsible guidelines for the welfare, care, and maintenance of dogs who are housed primarily outdoors.

ii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Add Section 39: Requiring dog guardians, or those responsible for the supervision of a said dog, to exchange personal identification information and rabies shot verification when dog bites occur.

iii. Amendment of SF Health Code - Allow for the suspension of animal guardianship/ownership privileges for three years, when deemed appropriate by the Vicious & Dangerous Dog Hearing Officer.

Commissioner Franklin reported that the Board of Supervisors passed the legislation 9 to 2 and it has been signed by the Mayor. NY has asked for a copy of the legislation to look at how they can pass similar legislation.

Move to new business

8a. Endorsement potential legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a three-year period.

Franklin reported that at the Board of Supervisor's meeting, Supervisor Maxwell suggested that the three year ban also apply to abuse and neglect. The City Attorney said that since abuse and neglect is under a different code (Penal Code) than vicious dog, (Health Code) Maxwell's amendment could not be added to the legislation and that the Board would need to take separate action on this. Dufty supported the amendment and the Board plans to vote on this at a later meeting .

Commissioner Franklin suggested that the Commission send a letter to the Board of Supervisors supporting Maxwell's amendment to assure this issue is not forgotten.

Since the Board of Supervisors cannot amend the state penal code, the Commission agreed that the best way to proceed would be to take the state penal code, add it to city health code, and amend that city code to include abuse and neglect. This would need to be done with guidance from the City Attorney.

Commissioner Kennedy moved

1. Commissioner Franklin will first check with Supervisor Maxwell's office on the status of her amendment.

2. If Maxwell's office has not moved forward on this, Commissioners Kennedy, Franklin and Herndon will prepare a recommendation outlining the Commission's idea of incorporating the state code into the city health code and run it by the City Attorney. Once finalized, it will then be sent to the Board of Supervisors with a letter of endorsement. Proposed legislation will include suspension of guardianship of an animal for up to 5 years.

Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Passed Unanimously

7. Old Business

a. Discussion on possible action to ban the sale of foie gras within San Francisco.

Commissioner Kipnis reported that Sonoma Saveurs, the Sonoma restaurant co-owned and operated by the owners of the Sonoma Foie Gras, was closing.

Weiss presented the research article she reviewed regarding the production of foie gras. The article discusses how harmful the process is. A link to the article will be added to the Commission web site.

Commissioner Wheeler reported that there is a lot of activity in France to get foie gras banned

Commissioner Kennedy stated, and the Commission agreed, that a ban on the serving of foie gras in San Francisco would not be passed by the Board of Supervisors at this time. The Commission agreed that it would need to do much more work on this issue before it brought this issue before the Board.

Commissioner Eckman moved to table item until a time when the Commission is able to do more work and prepare a strategy for successful action by the Board of Supervisors.

Seconded by Wheller

Passed Unanimously.

9. Public Comment- None

10. Calendar Items

Commissioners will e-mail calendar items for next Commission meeting to Chair Kennedy.

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

1. Chair Kennedy will post Commission vacancies on web site
2. Commissioners send documents of interest or links to Chair Kennedy for web site
3. Commissioner Franklin will check on status of proposed legislation regarding abuse and neglect.
4. Commissioner Herndon, Franklin and Kennedy will prepare and send letter of endorsement to Supervisor Maxwell regarding proposed legislation.
5. Commissioner Eckman will find out about horse attacks at Fort Funston
6. Commissioner Weiss will e-mail link to Chair Kennedy regarding foie gras article.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm, February 10, 2005



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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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March 10, 2005

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San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & WelfareSAN FRANCISCO
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MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 10, 2005
5:30 PMRoom 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689.....
Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Elissa Eckman,
Joanne Kipnis, Susan Wheeler, Mara Weiss DVM
Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, Dan McKenna
.....Mailing Address: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453, San Francisco,
CA 94102-4689

Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074

Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc

Commission Chairperson: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

_ Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

_ Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or
recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the*
items on the agenda at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the February 10, 2005 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

a. Upcoming Commission vacancies

i. Orientation manuals for new commissioners

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

a. Update on the current and future status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo.

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a three-year period.

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Discuss legislation that would impose mandated counseling for those convicted of animal abuse/neglect (in association with item 7-a).

9. Public Comment

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10. Calendar Items

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11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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March 10, 2005

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San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2005

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 5:35 pm, March 10, 2005.

Present: Commissioners Kennedy, Franklin, Kipnis, Herndon, Wheeler

Absent with excuse: Commissioners Eckman, Guldbeck

Absent with no excuse: Commissioner Weiss

2. Public Comment

5
2
10/05
Toni Sestak - asked if anything more can be done about cat declawing; also, is there anything that can be done to license dog breeders in order to stop pit bull breeding.

JR Yager - agreed that we needed to do something about cat declawing; also need to address the problem of homeless people who have too many animals.

Commissioner Weiss arrived.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from February 10, 2005

Commissioner Franklin moved to accept the February 10, 2005 minutes

Seconded by Commissioner Kipnis

Approved unanimously

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

a. Upcoming Commission vacancies - Commission Eckman, who served on the Commission for 8 years, will not be seeking reappointment. Commission currently has 4 vacancies. Dan McKenna is leaving Rec and Park Department.

Need to update Commissioner Orientation Manual. Commissioner Kipnis will follow-up.

SPCA is presenting a 2-day workshop on dog issues. Will take place the first weekend in May. This workshop was motivated by the new dog legislation.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

- a. Update on the current and future status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo.

Commissioner Kipnis reported that Lulu was transferred to PAWS this morning. Tinkerbelle is still having serious problems with her feet. Activist held a memorial for Calle, who died one year ago, at the SF Zoo.

Public Comment

Richard Fong - commented that it will be a long time before elephants ever come back to the SF Zoo.

JR Yager: Suggested that the 10 acres appropriated by the Zoo for the future elephant exhibit should be petitioned for some other use so that elephants cannot come return to the Zoo.

6. Old Business and New Business

- a. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to three-years.

Commissioner Franklin reported that Supervisor Maxwell has not made any progress on drafting legislation, but still wants to go forward. Franklin suggested that she prepare a draft of the legislation, work with city attorney on the wording and provide Maxwell with the draft for consideration.

Commissioner Herndon spoke with Commissioner Guldbach about shortening the time period between taking a dog into custody and conducting the hearing.

Public Comment

Richard Fong - asked about the time frame to evaluate abused dogs

Ron Cole - suggested that instead of changing the time span between custody of a dog and the hearing, we should change to the date of notification of the hearing.

Commission Discussion

Commission agreed that it needed to strengthen the legislation and change "up to 5 years" instead of 3 years.

- b. Discuss legislation that would impose mandated counseling for those convicted of animal abuse/neglect.

State of Iowa mandates that felony animal abusers attend counseling.

Need to clarify what type of counseling are we talking about.

Commissioner Franklin spoke about a nonprofit organization that addresses the issue of animal abusers and counseling. Will send web site link to Commission Kipnis to post on Commission web site.

Public Comment

Ron Cole - Supports looking into the relationship between domestic and animal abuse.

abuse is passed on - the cycle must be broken.

7. Public Comment

Gloria Rogan suggested that rather than having an arbitrary time period for the offender not to have a pet, the city should require that the offender be required to go through some type of application process to determine if he/she should be able to have a pet again.

Judy Miller - suggested that Animal Care and Control change their policy so that no animal can be reclaimed unless the animal is spayed or neutered.

Lee Piva - asked about the status of UCSF animal testing.

8. Calendar Items for next meeting

Licensing breeders

Cat declawing

9. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

1. Commissioner Kipnis will update orientation manual for new Commissioners
2. Commissioners Kennedy and Herndon will find out what animals are currently included in the dog legislation.
3. Commissioner Wheeler will research what treatments are used with domestic violence offenders and what programs are associated with their treatment.

12. Adjournment

Commission adjourned at 6:45 p.m.





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DOCUMENTS DEPT.

April 14, 2005

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San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & WelfareSAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC LIBRARY**MEETING AGENDA**Thursday, April 14, 2005
5:30 PMRoom 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689.....
Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Susan Wheeler,
Mara Weiss DVM, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
.....

Mailing Address:

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074 (not currently operable)
Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc
Commission Chairperson: Laurie Kennedy*(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)***1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.**3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the March 10, 2005 Meeting**

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

a. Upcoming Commission vacancies

i. Date of appointment hearing with the Rules Committee

ii. Orientation manuals for new commissioners

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

a. Update on the Tinkerbelle, the elephant who was transferred from the San Francisco Zoo to the PAWS Elephant Sanctuary

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a five-year period.

b. Discuss legislation that would impose mandated counseling for those convicted of animal abuse/neglect, clarifying the type of counseling and identifying what San Francisco counseling programs are currently available.

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Discuss the development of legislation that would require the owners/guardians of unsterilized cats and dogs to be licensed as breeders and subject to legal breeder standards and examination.

b. In an effort to increase spaying/neutering, explore options (such as fees or incentives) that Animal Care & Control could implement for owners/guardians claiming their unsterilized animals from the shelter's stay-hold.

c. Proposed establishment of a local ordinance that would prohibit

veterinarians from declawing cats. This legislation would prohibit declawing surgical procedures, but would allow declawing for therapeutic purposes only - when the procedure is medically necessary to protect the cat's health.

d. SF Health Code 42.3(c)(b) - Explore making a change of the time requirements for the scheduling of vicious and dangerous dog hearing dates, to be based not only on when the dog incident occurred but also upon when the dog and guardian can be found to receive notification.

9. Public Comment

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10. Calendar Items

- Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information](#)**Commission of Animal Control and Welfare**

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April 14, 2005

OCT 11 2005

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2005

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 5:35 pm, April, 14. 2005.

Present: Commissioners Kennedy, Franklin, Kipnis, Herndon, Wheeler, Guldbeck, Weiss, DMV

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from March

JR Yager provided changes to the March meeting minutes.

Commissioner Franklin moved to accept the March 10, 2005 minutes with changes.

Seconded by Commissioner Kipnis

Approved unanimously

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks**a. Upcoming Commission vacancies -**

Chair Kennedy reported that the Rules Committee may be meeting in April 27th. Kennedy will confirm date following this meeting.

b. Orientation packet - Commissioner Kipnis presented the final Commissioner Orientation Packet which will be provided to all new commissioners.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports**a. Update on the current and future status of the elephants at the San Francisco Zoo.**

Commissioner Kipnis reported that Tinkerbelle had to be euthanized last week. She fell down due to the condition of her feet, which were badly infected. Kipnis reported that part of her foot pad was disconnected from her foot, showing bone, a very painful condition that could not be repaired. Pat Derby, PAWS Director, reported that Tinkerbelle's last few months at PAWS were happy and her spirit had improved

tremendously since she had arrived from the SF Zoo. Derby was deeply distraught over the loss of Tinkerbelle.

Public Comment

None

Old Business and New Business

6a. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to five-years.

Last meeting, the Commission voted in favor of legislation and to work with Supervisor Maxwell's office. Commissioners Franklin and Guldbeck have developed a draft for the city attorney to review.

6b. Discuss legislation that would impose mandated counseling for those convicted of animal abuse/neglect, clarifying the type of counseling and identifying what San Francisco counseling programs are currently available.

Commissioner Franklin researched the issue and found that CA has mandated counseling for anyone convicted of animal cruelty -Franklin will continue to research this issue.

Commissioner Wheeler - many of the abusers are juveniles. Is very hard to get youth in counseling. Need some education on this issue. Will speak with individuals in the prosecutor's office to get statistics on juveniles.

Commissioners Guldbeck - DA's office very willing to work with ACC on this issue. State laws are restricted and penalties are already written. Mandatory counseling results from penalty of felony or misdemeanor. Commission would need to the state to make any changes in the law. ACC has a written agreement with the DA's office that stipulates mandatory 3 yrs of no animals. This is just a policy, not a state law. Judges usually do not impose a penalty on convicted individuals.

Guldbeck suggested that we insert this policy in the SF administrative code Start small.

Public Comments

Ron Cole - discussed the importance of intervening in the schools to teach young children. Bring people in who can effectively teach the value of life. Also, conduct scientific research to see what works and what doesn't work.

Richard Fong - teach kids how to deal with aggression. Need to deal with counter transference.

7. New Business

a. Discuss the development of legislation that would require the owners/guardians of unsterilized cats and dogs to be licensed as breeders and subject to legal breeder standards and examination.

No motion to discuss this new item.

b. In an effort to increase spaying/neutering, explore options (such as fees or incentives) that Animal Care & Control could implement for owners/guardians claiming their unsterilized animals from the shelter's stay-hold.

Motion moved by Commissioner Kipnis to discuss this issue.

Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Commission Franklin stated that San Mateo has mandatory spay and neutering for 2nd impound of animals. How do we ensure that animals are neutered and spayed.

If SF wanted to implement such a policy, we would need to change the law.

Commissioner Guldbeck - law states that you can't alter someone's property. There is a fee, however, those fees are not really working. ACC has to see the animal at large to impose the state fine.

Commissioner Franklin will continue to communicate with San Mateo people before developing a written resolution.

Commissioner Hendon suggested that the legislation be change to say "dogs" instead of "animals"

Public Comment

Rob Cole -these dogs that are brought to the shelter should trigger an inspection of the owners property

Richard Fong - use a video to teach how to neuter males

Unknown - Agrees with Ron Cole - should inspect the home. Anyone who takes back a dog and/or cat unsterialized is by nature a breeder.

Gloria Rogan - Lives downstairs from a cat breeder. This is a problem, given the over breeding and populations of cats. Need legal process to prevent this from happening.

Commissioners Guldbeck and Franklin will work on wording for resolution.

c. Proposed establishment of a local ordinance that would prohibit veterinarians from declawing cats. This legislation would prohibit declawing surgical procedures, but would allow declawing for therapeutic purposes only - when the procedure is medically necessary to protect the cat's health.

Motion by Commissioner Wheeler to discuss this issue

Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Commissioner Wheeler - CVMA is suing W. Hollywood's ordinance to ban declawing.

Commissioner Guldbeck will go back and speak with Carl Freedman about doing studies on behavior of declawed cats.

Commissioner Weiss - declawing is not taught in school anymore. Most vets are apathetic with regard to the issues of cat declawing. CVMA is just following the state

veterinarian practice act which makes it legal - this is a state law.

It was agreed that the Commission will wait and see what happens in West Hollywood before moving forward.

Public Comment

Ron Cole - CVMA's says that state licensing law takes precedence over other laws. So West Hollywood's ordinance is null and voided. Would be waste of time for SF to go forward on this.

d. SF Health Code 42.3(c)(b) - Explore making a change of the time requirements for the scheduling of vicious and dangerous dog hearing dates, to be based not only on when the dog incident occurred but also upon when the dog and guardian can be found to receive notification.

Motion moved by Commissioner Franklin to discuss this issue

Seconded by Commissioner Kipnis

Commissioner Herndon - suggested a change of the timeframe from 60 to 90 days, and change the language from day of incident to day of notification of owner. Suggests the Commission modify the language to allow the city more freedom as to when to conduct the hearing without the fear of the hearing expiring, should the owner not appear within 60 days.

Commissioner Hendon will work with Commissioner Guldbeck on language and send draft language to city attorney for review.

8. Public Comment

Bob O'Brien - UCSF - contact USDA attorney - hearing regarding the 75 citations of Animals Welfare Act will happen in October. Will be open to the public.

Trying to assemble DVMs and MDs are willing to become more outspoken about medical research at UCSF.

Unknown - Asks the Commission to approach SPCA and ask them to take cats used in experimentation, those not "damaged"

9. Calendar Items

Send items to Chair Kennedy

10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

1. Commissioner. Kennedy will contact Sunshine Ordinance Tasks Force to get updated laws.

2. Commissioners Guldbeck and Franklin will continue work on language regarding the prohibition of owning animals for up to five years.

3. Commissioner Franklin will further investigate the mandatory sterilizing of dogs that come through the shelter.

4. Commissioner Wheeler will continue updating the Commission on cat declawing issues. s.

5. Commissioners Guldbeck and Herndon will send change to SF health code3 42.33b

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm., April 14, 2005.



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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

DOCUMENTS DEPT.

May 12, 2005

OCT 11 2005

San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & WelfareSAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC LIBRARY**MEETING AGENDA**Thursday, May 12, 2005
5:30 PMRoom 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689.....
Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Susan Wheeler, Mara Weiss DVM, Vicky
Guldbach, William Herndon
.....Mailing Address:
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074 (not currently operable)

Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc

Commission Chairperson: Laurie Kennedy

*(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)***1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

_ Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment_ Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or
recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the*
items on the agenda at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.**3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the April 14, 2005 Meeting**

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

- a. Upcoming regarding vacancies appointment hearing with the Rules Committee

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

- a. Update regarding the debate and legal status of North Hollywood's anti-declawing bill

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

_ Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a five-year period.
- b. Discuss legislation that would impose mandated counseling for those convicted of animal abuse/neglect.
- c. SF Health Code 42.3(c)(b) - Explore making a change of the time requirements for the scheduling of vicious and dangerous dog hearing dates, to be based not only on when the dog incident occurred but also upon when the dog and guardian can be found to receive notification.

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

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9. Public Comment

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10. Calendar Items

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11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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May 12, 2005

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San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2005

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 5:40 pm, May 12, 2005.

Present: Commissioners Kennedy, Franklin, Kipnis, Herndon, Guldbeck, Weiss, DMV

Absent: Commissioner Wheeler, with excuse

2. Public Comment

None

3. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

Chair Kennedy reported that the SF Rules Committee will be meeting on May 18th, at 10 a.m. The Committee will hear from Commission candidates and recommend to the Board of Supervisors 4 appointments to the Commission.

Commissioner Franklin reported that she will be meeting with Elyssa Eckman, former Commissioner, and Supervisor Mirkarimi regarding UCSF animal testing and the Cambridge-style ordinance.

Public Comment - none.

4. Approval of Draft April Meeting MinutesPublic Comment:

Richard Fong - page 3, change reference to video tapes to, "use video optics to do procedure."

Commissioner Weiss moved to accept the minutes with changes.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Unanimous

5. Committee/Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Kipnis reported that there were no update on the debate of the anti

declawing bill in North Hollywood, CA.

Public comment - none.

6. Old Business

The Chair presented items 6a and 6c together.

6a. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a five-year period.

6c. SF Health Code 42.3(c)(b) - Explore making a change of the time requirements for the scheduling of vicious and dangerous dog hearing dates, to be based not only on when the dog incident occurred but also upon when the dog and guardian can be found to receive notification.

Commissioner Franklin reported that she and Commissioner Guldbeck will finalize the draft legislation regarding 6a and 6c and send to the City attorney in the next week.

Public Comment

Miriam - suggested that the Commission receive support from the DA's office prior to making a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

Gloria Rogan - since animals are private property, and private property is highly regulated, we can address the over population as an economic and/ health threat and use that approach as a strategy for getting legislation passed.

7b. Discuss legislation that would impose mandated counseling for those convicted of animal abuse/neglect.

Commissioner Franklin reported that counseling is mandated in the state of CA if an individual is convicted of animal abuse. Commissioner Guldbeck stated that she was able to find any written state code regarding mandatory counseling. She stated that if mandatory counseling is located under any section of the law other than the penal code, it would be best if the Commission would work towards establishing a local code. Commissioner Franklin will send Commissioner Guldbeck the web site link to the state law.

Commissioner Franklin will continue to research all current laws and codes regarding mandatory counseling and report her findings at next the Commission meeting.

Public Comment

RonCole - has a copy of the state code and will send it to Commissioners Guldbeck and Franklin

Miriam - suggested that the Commission do a lexus/nexus search. She volunteered to do a search since she has access to lexus/nexus.

New Business - none

Public Comment

Miriam - asked if there was any legislation in the city regarding the hit and run of animals.

Calendar Items:

Commissioners will submit July meeting agenda items to the Chair

Review of Task Allotments

1. Commission will continue to look into penal codes for mandatory counseling for animal abusers
2. Commissioners Franklin and Guldbeck and Herndon will continue working on fine tuning language for item 7a and 7c.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, June 9, 2005
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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.....
Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
.....

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MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the May 12, 2005 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

- a. Welcome and introductions of new Commissioners: J.R. Yeager, William Hamilton, and Richard Schulke
 - i. Commissioner orientation
- b. News update regarding recent two San Francisco dog incidents

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5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

- a. Update regarding an ordinance that would provide oversight of UCSF's live animal testing and adherence to the federal Animal Welfare Act
[Discussion Item]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

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7. Old Business

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

Items 7a -7c to be continued for discussion at July meeting

- a. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a five-year period.
- b. Discuss legislation that would impose mandated counseling for those convicted of animal abuse/neglect.
- c. SF Health Code 42.3(c)(b) – Explore making a change of the time requirements for the scheduling of vicious and dangerous dog hearing dates, to be based not only on when the dog incident occurred but also upon when the dog and guardian can be found to receive notification.

8. New Business

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Discuss ideas for legislative recommendation regarding vicious dogs and pet over-population; causes and possible solutions.
[Discussion Item]
-- Guest Speaker: Donna Reynolds from Bad Rap, an expert regarding pit bulls, community concerns, and legislation

Ideas may include:

- Mandating spay/neuter for dogs in San Francisco (exceptions to include registered breeders and registered show dogs)
- Licensing and registration of breeders -- define "breeder." Developing specific standards and requirements of breeders as to provide for well-adjusted and properly socialized animals
- Prohibiting the breeding and selling of pit bulls in the city and county of San Francisco

9. Public Comment

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10. Calendar Items

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11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

.....

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June 9, 2005

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San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare
Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2005

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm, June 9, 2005.

Present: Commissioners Kennedy, Franklin, Kipnis, Herndon, Guldbeck, Weiss, DVM, Schulke, Yeager, Hamilton

2. Public Comment

Eric Mills, Action for Animals - Welcomed three new Commissioners, Commission doing great work. Population of African Frogs in Golden Gate Park lily pond.. They are a prohibited species. Asked the Commission to do something about this. Fish and Game does not want to deal with his issues. Would like a letter from the Commission and the Board of Supervisors to address the issues.

3. Approval of draft May 12, 2005 meeting minutes

Commission Franklin moved to pass minutes without changes.

Seconded by Commissioner Kipnis.

Unanimous

4. Chair's Report

Chair Kennedy welcomed new Commissioners, Yeager, Hamilton, Schulke

Commissioners introduced themselves.

Move Commissioner orientation until end of meeting.

Chair reviewed basic meeting procedures

Update regarding two dog incidents in San Francisco:

- May 28 -two dogs running loose. Hearing held recently.

- June 3, 12-year old boy attacked by the family's two dogs resulting in the child's death. Still under investigation.

Mayor appointed a workgroup to review and assess ways to prevent pit bull attacks in the future.

The Mayor emphasized that the group's focus must be narrow and limited to incidents like Friday's tragedy. Recommendations from the workgroup are due within 10 days. Following review of recommendations, there will be much more public process to deal with potential legislation.

Public Comment - None

Commissioner Herndon -With regard to the attack in McClellan Park, ACC has three dogs in custody. Testimony still being considered. A decision will be made within a few days.

Move on to New Business

5. Commission discussion and public comment regarding ideas for legislative recommendation regarding vicious dogs and pet over-population, including discussion of:

- Mandating spay/neuter for dogs in San Francisco (exceptions to include registered breeders and registered show dogs)
- Licensing and registration of breeders -- define "breeder." Developing specific standards and requirements of breeders as to provide for well-adjusted and properly socialized animals
- Prohibiting the breeding and selling of pit bulls in the city and county of San Francisco

Commissioner Franklin reported on a US survey of over 200 fatal dog maulings. Out of the 200 maulings, 198 were carried out by unfixed animals, primarily unneutered males.

Chair Kennedy discussion will be limited to the scope of the item as it is written. The Commission will provide public and Commission feedback to the working group for consideration in developing their recommendations. .

Chair Kennedy stated that some of the press releases regarding this meeting were inaccurate. Contrary to what some of the press releases stated, the Commission is not going to discuss banning the breed of pit bulls. Banning breeds is against state law, the issue was never on the Commission's agenda and it will not be discussed at this meeting. .

Guest Speaker, Donna Reynolds, Director of Bad Rap

Represents Bay Area Dog Lovers Responsible about Pit Bulls

This problem has concerned Bad Rap for years

- This topic covers all breeds, all large dogs, all bad situations.
- This is a dog issue, not a breed issue.
- The trend over the past 6 years is the overpopulation for this one breed.

- Pit Bulls have been succeeding as family pets in the Bay area. For the most part, the responsible owners with good dogs are having a good experience.
- The problem occurs when troubled dogs (of any breed) are matched up with irresponsible owners/guardians. This problem has not gone away, the breed just changes.
- **Breed Specific Legislation (BSL)** has not been effective. Difficult to enforce. Miami Dade County in 1997 banned pit bulls. In 2002, there were still 50,000 pit bulls in the county, even though they were banned.
- Craig's list advertises up to 400 pit bulls for sale. Most sold are not neutered. A consortium of shelters and rescue groups in the east bay, Hop Along, ARF, Oakland Shelter, and Bad Rap, have asked Craig's list to stop advertising. There has been mixed reviews about that request.
- Would like to see a lower population of pit bulls.
- Shelters all over the bay areas are looking for leadership.
- Since the attack took place, people are begging for basic training and actively seeking information on how to handle their pit bull.
- The entire country is watching us now and looking to us for leadership in developing progressive policy. The country is looking at us to see how we will resolve this problem.

LA Legislation

- Legislation that prohibits people from dog breeding unless they have a **breeder's permit**. Along with the legislation, proactive to go out into the community to spay and neuter.
- In order to breed in Los Angeles, you need a permit. The cost is \$100. AC officers go into the neighborhoods, knock on doors and find out whether dogs and cats have been licensed. They target areas where pit bulls and other free roaming dog population is high.
- Owners can receive a voucher and then pay \$10 to get the dog neutered/spayed.
- If owner decides not to obtain a breeders license or neuter their dog, they must pay a \$500 penalty.
- To curb advertising impact, there is a task force that answers ads in the paper. They show up in uniform and require owner to fulfill their obligation.
- The program is successful - almost everyone complies. The city makes it easy. Since the program started, **75% of licensed dogs are neutered/spayed. Fewer dogs are euthanized.** Also promote education efforts - create classes for families that want to adopt a pit bull.
- There is a special license for guard dogs - \$150 if owner does not neuter/spay the dog. Must be micro chipped

Public Comment

1. Mark Witt - Pit bull owner, these dogs are taught to fight each other, not to be aggressive to people. Focus on owner, not the dog.

2. Laura Beck - Fatal dog attack is an unusual event - 20 deaths per year out of 53 million dogs. Dogs that attacked were unaltered. No association with breed. What is needed is a healthy discussion on banning or strict rules on breeding and mandatory spay and neutering. Do not punish the dogs at shelters. Rescue groups implement tough temperament tests on dogs before they are adopted out.

3. Sally Stevens - SF Dog. Knee jerk responses are not effective. They can be divisive to the community. Must address aggressive dogs, but it requires a measured and thought out response. Worst thing to do is create regulations that are ineffective and unenforceable.

- Education is key to reducing dog bites in the community
- Encourage spay and neutering
- Stop irresponsible breeders.
- Restrictions on breeders should be considered as long as responsible breeders are not impacted.
- Increased access to behavior training

4. Richard Fong - Not in favor of spaying and neutering. In favor of restrictions; such as muzzling, not allowed off leash

5. Rhonda Nichols - Not in favor of BSL. In favor of spay/neutering. Would like ACC to have stricter rules before persons can get a dog, instead of telling the owners what they need to do once the dog is adopted.

6. Ron Cole - Serious questions as to whether the dog that attacked the child is a pit bull. Most attacks are human errors. We need to know what the human did. Take this opportunity to educate the public about dog behavior, spay and neutering. Need to teach owners what the dangers are when a pit bull is in heat, around children.

7. Jane Greenwald - Urges Commission not to recommend overbroad solutions to a non problem. There is not overpopulations problem with pets in SF. This is a child endangerment issue. Do not over legislate. Mobilize all education resources as much as possible.

8. Eric Steinberg - There is a huge pet overpopulation in Oakland. Stop the breeding of all animals in the city of SF. Breeding is simply immoral.

9. Eric Mills - There is a huge pet overpopulation in the city. So many people abuse these dogs. Would like to see the pit bull bred out of existence. We create the problem and now we punish the victim. Do it humanely, but it will not end unless we get rid of breed.

10. Margaret Trichio - Best friend is her pit bull. Have had a long history as a unique American dog. Suggests that the Commission listen and give this a lot of thought. Solve the problem so people like herself can have their best friend.

11. Lisa Vitori - The problem is about how children and dogs relate to each other, but more importantly, how vigilant parents are when dogs and children are together. It is the parent's responsibility to monitor when children and dogs are together.

12. Nichol Preesy-Smith - How do we address mixed breeds. What about those dogs that are only partial pit bull? How will the law distinguish which dogs are part pit?. If a dog wears a muzzle, it will create more fear. ACC is overstressed as it is, so do not ask them to go around the city to enforce muzzles, etc..

13. Jenna Ikler - Has a pit bull, who is a registered service dog. Pit bulls used to be the family dog, now there is all this fear, what is going on now is "Pit Bullism". Most commonly abused dogs. Need more controls on breeding of all dogs, and mandatory spay and neutering.

14. Lana Basil - Opposed to any BSL. This is not a breed specific issue. We need to understand the temperament of an animal and the socialize aspects. Any dog can turn on any person.

15. June Wilson - This is an issue of an irresponsible owner, not the dog. An issue of irresponsible breeders. Many pit bulls go to the wrong owners.

16. Tara Nic Dorma - Does pit bull rescue in Ireland. In SF to learn about what we are doing with dog regulations. There are too many dogs being killed every day in shelters. There is an overpopulation of many dogs in SF. She has never feared a pit bull. Pit bulls were trained to fight other dogs, not to be aggressive to people. Backyard breeding is the problem.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Guldbeck - No standards/requirement for breeders in SF. The majority of the problem is the back yard breeders. It's about money; it is a sport and a status symbol. The pit bull is the victim.

Commissioner Franklin - Should not pass a law simply in response to this incident. Need to look at overall problem of aggressive dogs and how we go forth with solving the problem of over population of pit bulls.

Commissioner Herndon - The overwhelming majority (99%) of male dogs at vicious and dangerous dog court are unneutered males. If you put that dog with a young male adult (18-35), the combination is what is seen in court - which presents the problem in SF. -

Commissioner Weiss - Neutering is very effective as it reduces the violence of a dog. UC Davis has done a study that shows after neutering, dogs are less aggressive.

Commissioner Schulke - CA State law does not allow BSL. Other ordinances may be a good road map, but it is a slippery slope. Animal Care and Control needs a larger budget for enforcement. If we cannot enforce the law, there is no point. Must have adequate budget and enforcement to enforce any laws that are passed. Also, should we look at the state law to see if the state law should be changed in terms of BSL? Could be tricky.

Commissioner Kennedy - To open the door to BSL could be a slippery slope. We do not want to limit ourselves to any breed specific legislation.

Commissioner Guldbach - When a dog is deemed vicious or dangerous, it is required that the dog be spayed or neutered. This is in the code. We see few repeat offenders from those dogs that have been spayed and/or neutered. This shows that spay and neutering is a great start to solving this problem.

Commissioner Herndon - Due to the work of this Commission and the Board of Supervisors, Herndon can order a dog to be spayed and neutered even before it is deemed vicious and dangerous.

Commissioner Guldbach - Staffing is always an issue. If the work group comes up with a recommendation that will require more city resources, the Mayor will need to take that into consideration.

Commissioner Schulke - Let's not have a cycle of demonizing the "dog de jour". There will just be another breed of dogs that we demonize later on.

Commissioner Herndon - Target general population of dogs, not a specific breed of dogs. Problem with BSL is how to identify a pit bull.

Commissioner Weiss - If we recommend mandated spay and neutering, we first need to discuss with SF Vets who will be doing the spaying and neutering. This also is a resource issue.

Commissioner Kipnis - As part of Commission work, we need to capitalize on successes in other states. Find model statutes out there that are effective.

Guest Speaker Donna Reynolds - According to the LA legislation, if the owner continues to ignore spay/neuter orders, it becomes a criminal misdemeanor. The pressure of officers going through the neighborhoods was enough pressure for people to comply with the legislation in LA.

Important point to keep in mind is that we are now seeing in Oakland shelters other types of aggressive dogs; it is not just about pit bulls. There are other types of aggressive dogs involved in attacks, for example, those being brought into the country from South America.

Franklin and other members of the Commission - The fact that we are seeing other types of aggressive dogs is certainly a solid reason not to support any type of breed specific legislation.

Commissioner Guldbach - Working group needs to take into consideration the fact that some owners will never respond to orders, even after charged with a misdemeanor. Need to take compliance level into consideration. Need strict consequences - i.e seizure order for the dog.

Commissioner Herndon - Even after seizure order has been issued, the owner will hide the dog.

Commissioner Kipnis - Education, outreach and public relations is critical in this effort. Would require more resources, but very effective. SF should fund a PR campaign around this issue?

Commissioner Franklin - Need strong shelter requirements for adopters. Share with ACC what the Commission hears from the public about strong adoption requirements.

Commissioner Yeager- Work group may want to include breeder guidelines in whatever they decide to recommend. It sounds like strict breeding rules are necessary as well.

Next Steps:

Chair Kennedy - Feedback given will be important and valuable to the workgroup in developing their recommendations. Commissioner Kipnis will prepare and forward the minutes to Commissioner Herndon tomorrow, who will share them with the Mayor's workgroup.

Commissioners Herndon and Guldbach left the meeting.

6. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

a. Update regarding an ordinance that would provide oversight of UCSF's live animal testing and adherence to the federal Animal Welfare Act.

Commissioner Franklin introduced former Commissioner Alyssa Eckman to provide an update.

Commissioner Eckman report that she and Commissioner Franklin had a meeting with Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi, and by phone, Suzanne Roy, IDA, and Carter Dillard, Attorney.

Eckman reported that there was resistance to the ordinance from the City Attorney's office, and as a result, they have explored the option of a memorandum of understanding as an alternative. Eckman will deliver a cover letter and supportive documents to the Supervisor's office today.

The next step is to work with the attorneys to figure out the best way to move forward and work through any legal challenges.

b. Commission officer elections - Commission officer elections are coming up in July. Nominations for officers must be submitted to the Chair by the time next month's agenda items are due.

Public Comment

Eric Mills - animal care and use committees are required by law in Florida, to be open to the public. Should be legal in CA as well. Related to that, feels that the African frogs were used in research and the rest were dumped in the Golden Gate lily pond.

Lisa Vitori - worked in animal research lab. Was in the junior high where kids were dissecting a squid. The school might be an easier place to work as a first step. Interesting to look at dead animals for research, but not ethical to take the life of an animal to achieve that.

Michele Tai - start with SF and have the city say publicly that animal is not scientific.

Commissioner Franklin will bring Commissioner Yeager and Hamilton up to date on the UCSF issue.

7. Commissioner Orientation

Chair Kennedy referred to the Commissioner Orientation Packet. The Commission has had a great deal of successes including establishing a credible relationship and reputation with the SF Board of Supervisors. We have been successful due to the way in which the Commission works.

Chair Kennedy reviewed some of the Sunshine laws as they relate to meeting procedures.

Commissioner Schulke stated that it was unfair that the Commission does not have paid staff to take minutes and assist with any administrative needs.

New Commissioners will review the orientation packet and then contact the chair if there are questions.

8. Public Comment - none

9. Closing review and task allotments

1. Commissioner Kipnis will prepare minutes and forward to Commissioner Herndon by noon tomorrow.
2. New Commissioners will review Commissioner Orientation packet
3. Commissioners will send calendar item to the Chair by July 1st

Meeting adjourned 7:45 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, July 14, 2005
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
.....

07-01-05A10 26 RCVD

MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the June 9, 2005 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

- a. News and updates regarding recommendations made on June 17, 2005 by the Canine Response Working Group [Working Group], appointed by Mayor Gavin Newsom. Update to include status report regarding SB 861, which currently prohibits municipalities from making breed specific regulations.

<http://www.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/mayor/CRWG%20Final%20Report.pdf>

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

Items 7a -7c to be continued for discussion at a future meeting

- a. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a five-year period.
- b. Discuss legislation that would impose mandated counseling for those convicted of animal abuse/neglect.
- c. SF Health Code 42.3(c)(b) – Explore making a change of the time requirements for the scheduling of vicious and dangerous dog hearing dates, to be based not only on when the dog incident occurred but also upon when the dog and guardian can be found to receive notification.
- d. Commissioner Orientation – Process Q&A for newly appointed Commissioners

8. New Business

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

Note: The Commission may not be able to discuss all new business items during the July meeting. Some items may be carried over discussion at future meetings.

- a. Discuss legislation that would require spay/neuter surgery:
 - Consider the Working Group's recommendations:
 - Mandated altering for pit bull and pit bull mixes
 - Neutering upon shelter impoundment or failure to license
 - Explore the options, benefits, and drawbacks involved with mandating spay/neuter for all dogs, with the exception of licensed breeders and show dogs

[Discussion/Action Item]
- b. Discuss a back-yard breeding prohibition that would restrict the practice of breeding to those persons appropriately licensed.
 - Explore what standards should be in place for one to be a licensed breeder
 - Discuss regulations that would restrict the ability for non-licensed breeders to advertise through any forum

[Discussion/Action Item]

- c. Discuss the Working Group's recommendation to develop policy reform that would target the owners/guardians of dogs that pose a risk to public safety, which may include:
 - Penalties proportionate with the harm and injury potentially caused by "vicious and dangerous dogs"
 - Fine increases for those that do not register their dogs
 - Fees for owners/guardians of "vicious and dangerous dogs"[Discussion/Action Item]
- d. Discuss the Working Group's recommendation to require owners/guardians of specified "vicious and dangerous dogs" to obtain a minimum threshold of liability insurance not traditionally covered by homeowners insurance
[Discussion/Action Item]
- e. Discuss the Working Group's recommendation to create a reporting system to determine potentially dangerous dogs. Such a system may include, but is not limited to, instituting an online reporting system.
[Discussion/Action Item]
- f. Discuss the Working Group's recommendation to create city educational programs for elementary school aged children regarding how to live and play safely with animals.
[Discussion/Action Item]
- g. Discuss the Working Group's recommendation to develop and implement a dog safety public education campaign, targeted at both youth and the general community.
[Discussion/Action Item]
- h. Commission officer elections
 - Chairperson
 - Vice-Chair
 - Secretary[Discussion/Action Item]
- i. Commendation for former Commissioner Elissa Eckman, who served the Commission for six years.
[Discussion/Action Item]

9. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

10. Calendar Items

- Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place

during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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July 14, 2005

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Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2005**SAN FRANCISCO
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Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm, July 14, 2005.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Kennedy, Franklin, Kipnis, Weiss, DVM, Schulke, Yeager, Hamilton

Absent with excuse: Commissioners Herndon and Guldbeck

Guest: Carl Friedman, Director of SF Animal Care and Control

2. Public Comment- None**3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the June 9, 2005 Meeting**

Schulke - with regard to LA legislation, minutes should state that if a permit not issued, then the owner will have to pay a fine for unaltered animal.

Public comment

Richard Fong - page 4, discussed vasectomy as an option

Judith Breckham - \$10 for license, and \$100 if dog is unaltered

Motion by Commissioner Hamilton to accept the June minutes with changes

Seconded by Commissioner Schulke.

Passed unanimously

4. Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks

a. News and updates regarding recommendations made on June 17, 2005 by the Canine Response Working Group

Carl Friedman

- Mission of workgroup was to obtain best practices with regard to how to deal with the pit bull issue. Not looking to ban an specific breed. The focus was on the pit bull problem, specifically backyard breeders.

- Most important report recommendation is the proposed change to the current state law which would allow cities and counties the ability to pass breed specific legislation for public safety, as long as it does not ban the breed. The proposed bill, sponsored by Senator Spier, has been through a number of modifications and now proposes breed specific legislation for pit bulls specific to mandatory spay neuter and breeding requirements only. Anticipates bill will be voted on in the next couple of months.
- Another important recommendation is the establishment of breeder requirements. Need to consider breeding condition, where and who are breeding, how many litters per year, where are the puppies being sold, etc.
- Mayors mandate is to coincide with the writing of legislation, so if the proposed state law amendment does pass, we are ready to proceed with SF legislation.
- Thanked Senator Spier and Supervisor Bevan Dufty for tackling this issue.

Amanda Kahn, Supervisor Dufty's Assistant - the Supervisor wants feedback from the Commission so he can have the most informed legislation to bring to the Board of Supervisors. Should the state legislation pass, the Mayor would like to move very fast and have city legislation ready to go to the Board of Supervisors. The Supervisor has already requested the City Attorney's office to draft legislation.

Chair Kennedy -Commission's job is to examine the issues, research what else is in place in other municipalities and provide the information to Dufty's office in a timely manner.

Public Comment

Terresa Paul - how do you find the backyard breeders. If this passes, it is the responsible owners who are going to have to pay for the city to find the backyard breeders.

Bob Obrian - against BSL, does not go far enough. Stop breeding and selling all dogs, not just backyard breeders. Need a plan "B" in case the proposed state law does not pass; what is the definition of "adoptable".

5. New Business

a. Discuss legislation that would require spay/neuter surgery:

- Consider the Working Group's recommendations - mandated altering for pit bull and pit bull mixed ; neutering upon shelter impoundment or failure to license.
- Explore the options, benefits, and drawbacks involved with mandating spay/neuter for all dogs, with the exception of licensed breeders and show dogs

Commission Discussion

- Carl Friedman - ACC is only inundated with animals that no one wants, mostly pit bulls. May not be in our best interest to have a mandatory spay neuter for all dogs; not sure it's necessary and enforcement would be very difficult; would result in selective enforcement. Right now the need is to focus on the problem of overpopulation of pit-bulls, bite incidents and the animal welfare side - stop the killing so many pit bull because we can't find good homes. Start with the problem

at hand, pit bulls, and see how it works; then consider mandatory spay neuter city-wide.

- Commissioner has collected mandatory spay neuter laws from other municipalities. Need to call representatives from these municipalities and find out how these are enforced.
- Institute mandatory spay neuter for all dogs. That would address the aggression and population issues.
- It will be a challenge to identify a pit bull and pit bull mixes. Where does the law draw the line?
- Mandatory spay neuter for all dogs would be a great idea, however, community might feel that the city was interfering in their personal life; there was much opposition when this issue came before the Commission years ago.
- Would like to see mandatory spay neuter for all dogs be a model for other counties. At the same time, must consider the impact of enforcement on ACC. Need to invite experts to our next meeting to discuss this issue.
- If the proposed amendment to the state law does not pass, then mandatory spay neuter of all dogs would take care of the pit bull problem. The goal should be to put shelters out of business - no more homeless pets.
- Although there appears to be less of overpopulation problem, there is no harm in instituting mandatory spay neuter for all dog as a way to keep the population down. Just because the issue faced great opposition from the community the last time it was brought up before the Commission, that does not mean we should not bring it up again.
- This is personal issue for many people; some fear surgery. We won't change the way people feel.
- If the public knew the stats on dog bites, there would be support of mandatory spay neuter across the board.
- Must not forget to look at responsible guardianship in concert with educational.
- The issue of dog aggression is primary; regardless of breed - not just pit bulls that are aggressive. Mandatory spay neuter across the board will address this problem. Need to research stats on aggression in dogs.

Public Comment

Ron Cole - main concern of veterinarians in the mid 90s was that they would have to start reporting to any city agency; people might stop getting their dogs vaccinated if they knew that they would be reported for not neutering their dog.

Judith Breckham -the average Joe does not always keeping up with the training of any breed. Also consider neutering male dogs later.

Bob Obrian - licensed breeders have a lot of deficiencies; no one should be licensed to breed dogs; any recommendation should include education so the public knows how many animals are being killed with our tax dollars.

Patrick Norman - need to control the owner, not the dog; place the responsibility with the owner.

Salley Stevens - produced position paper on aggressive dogs. Supports mandatory spay neuter of all dogs, with exception for responsible breeders, show dogs and health issues.

Richard Fong - park stewardship should be brought into this discussion. Where are we going to look for dog problems?

Terresa Paul - support mandatory spay neuter, breeder permits are a good idea.

Commission Discussion

- Look at this issue more fully and consider whether or not it would be supported by the community. Need to look at this issue as a public safety issue.
- Objective of BSL is to address aggression in pit bulls and to address the overpopulation of pit bulls. Does this lead to "breedism"? Must now consider the objective of mandatory spay neuter for all dogs. What are we trying to achieve and is mandatory spay neuter for all dogs the answer? What are the drawbacks, the challenges, the successes?
- Potential guest speakers for next Commission meeting:
- Behaviorists Jean Donaldson and Janice Bradley, SPCA Academy of Dog Trainers
- Professional breeder groups to discuss breeder standards
- Vets who could comment on breeders considerations
- Executive Directors from bay area municipal animals control agencies
- Dona Reynolds from Bad Rap
- Donna Duford

Amanda Kahn -Supervisor Dufty is more comfortable with BSL to address public safety issues, but he would seriously consider any recommendation from the Commission

6. Backyard breeding

- a. Discuss a back-yard breeding prohibition that would restrict the practice of breeding to those persons appropriately licensed.
- b. Explore what standards should be in place for one to be a licensed breeder
- c. Discuss regulations that would restrict the ability for non-licensed breeders to advertise through any forum

Commission discussion

- Gather as many breeding laws as possible; laws are different in each state, different for each breed; vary across urban and rural settings, etc. Review

successful breeding laws and assess how those laws would work in SF. Need experts in this area to speak to the Commission as well.

- Immediate need is to deal with aggression; overpopulation is also an issue (maybe not now, but could be again in the future), animal welfare - stop the killing of dogs.
- Need for mandatory spay neuter of all dogs if the proposed state law does not pass. Must have a plan B.

Carl Friedman - reiterate that overpopulation is with pit bulls, no other breeds; we do not have an overpopulation of other breeds, as we once did. Also ACC currently has a different screening/adoption process for pit bulls, which is necessary, even though is it against the law as the law stands now.

Public Comment

Ron Cole - should offer free services for neutering dogs; voluntary spay neutering works far better than any law on the books.

Amanda Kahn - media will pick up on whatever action comes from this; that media attention will in turn educate the community.

Salley Stevens- should act sooner, not wait for action on state law.

Judith Breckham- how to define the pit bull; in LA, the ordinance is not being enforced; only being enforced in the poorer neighborhoods; people with unaltered dogs are not licensed.

Commission Discussion

Carl Friedman - There is the political will to make this work. SF is committed to this issue and will put forth the resources needed to address this problem.

7. Commissioner Officer Elections

Officer seats are held for one year.

Chair - Commissioner Franklin nominated Chair Kennedy to continue to serve as Chair.

Seconded by Commissioner Kipnis

Vice Chair - Commissioner Kipnis nominated Vice Chair Franklin to continue to serve as Vice Chair

Seconded by Commissioner Hamilton

Secretary - Commissioner Kennedy nominated Commissioner Kipnis to continue to serve as Secretary

Seconded by Commissioner Weiss.

No other nominations.

Commissioner Hamilton moved to accept slate of officer nominations

Motion seconded by Commissioner Schulke

Passed unanimously

8. Commendation for former Commissioner Elissa Eckman.

Commissioner Franklin moved that the Commission expresses its appreciation to and commend former Commission Elissa Eckman for her great work as Commissioner and Chair.

Carl Friedman - moved to also commend former Chair Schulke, who chaired the Commission for years during some very hard and difficult times. Did an excellent job as Chair.

Commissioner Kipnis moved that the Commission write a letter of commendation and certificates to both form Commissioner Eckman and Commissioner Schulke.

Seconded by Commissioner Hamilton

Passed unanimously

Public Comment

David Pillpell - given suggested that the Commission request staffing to handle the correspondence, minutes, postings so the Commission can focus on the issues and not the administrative needs.

Commissioner Schulke will be addressing the Board at their next meeting regarding the Commission's need for staff, given the tasks we are given to do, we are the only Commission without a staff.

Friedman - will make sure we get the staffing we need consistent with our budget for this year.

8. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

- a. Commissioner Franklin will continue to research breeder specifications.
- b. Commission Kennedy will contact Executive Directors of city run shelters in other municipalities regarding mandatory spay neuter legislation
- c. Commissioner Kennedy will follow up with Carl Friedman regarding to the Commission's budget, office space, and staffing.
- d. Commissioner Kipnis will research mandatory spay neuter laws in other municipalities.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, August 11, 2005
5:30 PM

DOCUMENTS DEPT.

AUG 08 2005

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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PUBLIC LIBRARY

.....
Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the July 14, 2005 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

1. Name of the student		2. Name of the instructor	
3. Title of the paper		4. Date of presentation	
5. Abstract		6. Summary	
7. Introduction		8. Results	
9. Discussion		10. Conclusion	
11. References		12. Acknowledgments	
13. Appendix		14. Bibliography	
15. Footnote		16. Index	
17. Glossary		18. Appendix	
19. Bibliography		20. Index	
21. Glossary		22. Appendix	
23. Bibliography		24. Index	
25. Glossary		26. Appendix	
27. Bibliography		28. Index	
29. Glossary		30. Appendix	
31. Bibliography		32. Index	
33. Glossary		34. Appendix	
35. Bibliography		36. Index	
37. Glossary		38. Appendix	
39. Bibliography		40. Index	
41. Glossary		42. Appendix	
43. Bibliography		44. Index	
45. Glossary		46. Appendix	
47. Bibliography		48. Index	
49. Glossary		50. Appendix	
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91. Bibliography		92. Index	
93. Glossary		94. Appendix	
95. Bibliography		96. Index	
97. Glossary		98. Appendix	
99. Bibliography		100. Index	

7. Old Business

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Explore legislation that would require spay/neuter surgery. Options may include:
 - Mandated altering for pit bull and pit bull mixes (assuming SB 861 passes)
 - Neutering upon shelter impoundment or failure to license
 - Mandated altering for all dogs, with the exception of licensed breeders and show dogs
 - Mandated altering for pit bull and pit bull mixes and dogs over 40 lbs. with the exception of licensed breeders and show dogs

[Discussion/Action Item]

- b. Develop draft legislation to curb backyard breeding by licensing breeders.
 - Explore the standards that should be in place for one to be a licensed breeder
 - Discuss regulations that would restrict the ability for non-licensed breeders to advertise through any forum

[Discussion/Action Item]

- c. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a five-year period.

[Discussion/Action Item]

- d. SF Health Code 42.3(c)(b) – Change of the time requirement for the scheduling of vicious and dangerous dog hearing dates, to be based not only on when the dog incident occurred but also upon when the dog and guardian can be found to receive notification.

[Discussion/Action Item]

8. New Business

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Proposal to investigate and, if appropriate, seek prosecution of San Francisco businesses selling bear gall bladder and bile products.

[Discussion/Action Item]

- b. Discuss making a recommendation for the removal of the African Clawed Frogs from ponds in the city.

[Discussion/Action Item]

9. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

10. Calendar Items

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11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

DOCUMENTS DEPT.

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare**August 11, 2005**

OCT 11 2005

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control & Welfare
Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2005

SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC LIBRARY**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Present: Commissioners Kennedy, Franklin, Kipnis, Weiss, DVM, Schulke, Yeager, Hamilton,

Also Present - Colleen Rivecca, volunteer who will be assisting the Commission in taking minutes and compiling the Commission's pit bull recommendation for the Mayor's Workgroup.

Absent: Commissioner Guldbeck

2. Public Comment

Eric Mills - reported on status of elephants at the CA state fair. No elephant rides at the fair.

Laura Massa - Expressed gratitude to Laurie Kennedy for her work and dedication as Chair on the Commission. Commended Kennedy for her work at the SPCA.

Judy - Does the Commission have an internal mechanism to censor other Commissioners who make public statements that are inflammatory and factually incorrect? Referred to article in Marina Times where Commissioner Yeager made statements regarding the population dynamics of feral cats in San Francisco.

Commissioners Kennedy - a Commissioner can represent themselves as Commissioner but can not speak on behalf of the Commission. There is no policy on the books now that prohibits a Commissioner from stating that he/she is a Commissioner, yet speaking for themselves on a particular issue.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the July 14, 2005 Meeting.

Change DA to City Attorney.

Correct spelling of Commissioner Schulke's last name.

Motion by Commissioner Schulke to accept the minutes with changes

Seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Passed Unanimously

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

B7 New Commission address - mail now goes to room 362

B7 No budget, Commissioner Kipnis will continue to do the minutes

B7 Name plaques and business cards have been ordered

B7 State Bill 861 will go back to the State Assembly on or about August 15th.

5. Old Business

a. Explore legislation that would require spay/neuter surgery. Options may include:

Commissioner Kipnis provided a report of research findings of mandatory spay neuter laws across the country:

B7 Goal was to reduce the overpopulation of homeless animals and to prevent future births of unwanted animals. There was not much mentioned about aggression in unaltered dogs, which we already know is correlated with rates of neutering.

B7 The laws also allowed for owners keep unaltered pets as long as they obtain a permit or breeders license, which was accompanied by an annual fee.

B7 Statistics have shown that euthanasia rates are down, impounds were drastically reduced as well.

B7 Enforcement - variance on that depending upon resources. In some communities, animal control officers were able to identify unlicensed and or unaltered dogs on their day-to-day calls out in the field. And that's how they enforced the law. Other counties have canvassing staff who go door to door.

B7 Not able to get a great deal of stats on costs, but in some counties, cost of penalties and licensing was put back into the city budget which was then used to hire more staff for enforcement, etc. Other counties found that it cost less to implement the law then to take care of so many homeless animals

B7 Major opposition came from AKC and breeder groups, not from individual residents.

Kipnis clarified that LA County has mandatory licensing for dogs, not mandatory spay neuter, however, they are still able to addresses the problem through mandatory licensing. LA implements differential licensing fees for altered and unaltered dogs - a financial incentive to neuter you dog (\$10 for altered dog \$100 for unaltered dog).

Commissioner Weiss reported on two cities that have breed specific laws. One of the laws was upheld and one was overturned by the courts. The Mass law was not upheld due to too vague language in reference to the defining a pit bull. The law was determined discriminatory. The Washington state law was upheld due to Animal Control officers actually having illustrations and standards to clarify what was considered a pit bull type dog.

Commissioner Yeager, spoke with director of Contra Costa County - clear problem

with pit bulls; pit bulls were too much dog for most people. If a pit bull goes off, there must have been some warning signs preceding this behavior. Most difficult dog to place.

Commissioner Kennedy spoke with the San Mateo SPCA. Said their mandatory spay neuter law is not working. Too many governing bodies in the area. Major opposition is from people who do not want the government in their personal lives. Feral cat groups opposed the law due to licensing requirements, which is included in the law. It will be much harder to pass BSL down the line if SF goes for mandatory spay neuter and it fails.

Commissioner Weiss reported that behaviorists were not in favor of BSL. Much more information needs to be gathered and assessed on what is occurring with these dogs.

Invited Speakers:

Tim Racer - Bad Rap

B7 Would like to see the population of pit bulls cut down. Not been any country wide breed specific spay neuter laws, but there are breed specific bans of pit bulls, most of which are failing. CDC provided stats on dog bites but never quote the conclusions, which is breed specific legislation never works. Young boys get bitten by unaltered male dogs, of all breeds. Neutering a dog is the most effective thing to do to curb aggression in dogs.

B7 Other counties interested in an all-breed ordinance including Humboldt, Vallejo, and Alameda counties.

B7 Would like to see the Commission use LA legislation as a model.

B7 Change language for mandatory spay neuter to mandatory breeder licensing for dogs.

Kiska Icard, SF SPCA

Supports mandatory neutering of dogs to curtail behavior issues and overpopulation.

Referenced Holland as a good model for mandatory spay neuter laws.

Corinne Dowling, Give a Dog a Bone, ACC

Legislative ideas are good ones, but we also need to focus on education for public, those who plan to adopt a dog, regarding behavior in all dogs- how to recognize an aggressive dogs, etc. Suggested free assessment clinics for the public so that owners can bring their dogs in for behavior assessment.

Sally Stephens, SF Dog

Supports legislation being applied to all dogs. If we must target pit bulls now, we'll be back in a few years targeting another breed of dog. There is much more support in the community for this than we think. People will be more accepting of mandatory once they know there are exceptions to the law, i.e., health reasons, guide dogs, etc.

Danny Bamys, Bad Rap

SB 861 will have to go back to the state Senate after it appears on the floor in August, then to the Governor, and then usually bills are enacted the following January. So, if all that does not happen in the timeframe, the bill, if passed, will not go into place until January 2007. An all breed legislation can be done now. Also, it is not in our best interest to ensure that the shelters stay in operation - goal is not to have homeless dogs.

Kat Brown, ACC

Supports mandatory spay neuter for pit bulls only. Cited that 38% of serious bites are caused by pit bulls. Believes state amendment will pass because it is a problem across the state, not just a San Francisco problem. Animal control officers can use the ordinance to require that those pit bulls they find in the field be spayed and neutered before returning to the owner. 8 out of 15 dogs are pit bulls at ACC, which cannot be places.

The political climate will not allow a mandatory spay neuter ordinance to pass, but a pit bull ordinance will pass. Need a multifaceted ordinance to include both education and outreach. Target individuals and areas where there is a problem. The CA Animal Control Directors Association supports mandatory spay neuter of pit bulls and breeding regulations. Most animal control agencies in the state would support a pit bull specific legislation.

Public Comment

Patrick Dorman - dog etiquette sign needs to go up in the parks. Include phone numbers in the park so that people can call the SPCA or ACC if they see a violation. There are dog walkers in Portrero Hill Park where there are signs that say 93no dogs.⁹⁴

Ron Cole -commends Bad Rap for the alliance they have with east bay shelters for training pit bulls. Need training so owners know how to assess their dog's behavior. BSL targets pit bulls which adds to euthanasia rate; voluntary programs work better than mandatory programs.

Corey Evans - Attorney of Animal Law; BSL not upheld due to vagueness of language, easily challenged. Cannot claim that all-breed legislation as vague or discriminatory. Have more opposition to BSL.

Richard Fong - must care for the best interest of the animal, which has not been touched upon by the Commission

Tim Racer -responded to Kat's comments; All-breed ordinance can have the ability to target any dog when out on a call, a complaint system is not so bad, influx of insurance companies that are not insuring pit bull owners and landlords are not allowing pit bulls.

Maryanne Buxton - exclude cats from this proposed legislation.

b. Develop draft legislation to curb backyard breeding by licensed breeders.

Commissioner Franklin presented proposed breeder regulations.

Public Comment

Ron Cole - Must treat cats differently in terms of breeding regulations. Cat must breed every time cat comes into season or her uterus becomes infected and she'll have to be spayed..

Danny Bemys- Responsible breeders are not breeding for money. It is the hobbyist breeders that have got us to the situation we face today. Those are the ones we do not want to have exceptions for.

Commission Discussion

Cats will not be a part of the breeding requirements; we need to do further research on how this would impact cats before we include them in any ordinance.

Elements for breeder regulations:

B7 Permit for breeders

B7 Limitations on the number of litters per year

B7 Requirement for a healthy environment

B7 No in breeding

B7 Proof of initial exam and vaccine by a licensed vet

B7 Must print permit number of advertising

B7 Not convicted of animal cruelty and neglect

B7 Education on health of puppies

B7 Exemptions

Motion made by Commissioner Hamilton to accept elements to be included in breeder regulations

Seconded by Commission Franklin

Passed Unanimously

Elements for Mandatory Spay Neuter legislation

Cats will not be a part of the legislation.

B7 Require all dogs over a certain to be spayed or neutered unless they obtain an unaltered permit or breeders license.

B7 Require owners who choose not to spay or neuter their dog to obtain an unaltered permit and pay an annual fee for that permit.

B7 Require owners who wish to breed their animals to obtain a breeder's license and pay an annual fee for that license.

B7 Require owners who redeem their dog from shelters to pay a fine if their dog is unaltered. After three redemptions, if the dog is still unaltered, the dog must be spayed or neutered at owner's expense before the dog will be returned.

B7 The ordinance must allow for exemptions including, medical reasons; guide dogs; law enforcement dogs; rescue dogs; guide, signal or service dogs; animals in the care of shelters, humane societies, etc. that have spay neuter policies and procedures in place; dogs in transit - those temporarily in the city.

B7 Require a detailed enforcement plan, which would include canvassing, monitoring and reporting of statistics, such as dog attacks, euthanasia rates, shelter impounds, etc, as necessary to assess effectiveness of the ordinance. Funding for enforcement must be made available.

B7 Require penalties for violation of the law - penalties should include penalty fees and prosecution if fees are not paid and/or violations are not corrected.

B7 Require that effective public awareness and education about responsible pet ownership, pet adoption, and the benefits of spay and neuter operations be implemented.

B7 Provide lost cost spay neuter and/or vouchers. Funding must be made available.

Commissioner Kipnis moved to accept mandatory spay neuter elements.

Seconded by Commissioner Schulte

Passed Unanimously

Postpone agenda items 7c, 7d, and 8a until next month. All agreed.

6. New Business

a. Discuss making a recommendation for the removal of the African Clawed Frogs from ponds in the city.

Eric Mills, Action for Animals, spoke about the urgent need to get the African Clawed Frogs out of the pond in Golden Gate Park. If they get into the Delta, it will be a disaster. Has been trying to get this issue addressed over the past 2 years. Fish and Game has said it is the responsibility of the city of San Francisco, presented a report with solutions to the City Attorney, written to the Mayor, met with Supervisor Peskin's office, met with Park and Recreation a few times. Nothing has happened. No action. Plan will not cost a lot since there are a lot of volunteers lined up to help.

Miles Young, Consultant, worked with SF Fish and Game when this issue was first brought to their attention. Spoke about the need for action. When the plan was ready to go, politics interfered. City spoke about trapping the frogs, but that only gets rid of the adults, not the tadpoles.

Commissioner Hamilton left the meeting.

Commission Discussion. Important to get the ear of a Supervisor. Also need involvement from the Rec. and Park Commissions before we bring it before the Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Schulke will request that this item be on the Rec and Park Commission's next meeting agenda. He will speak before the Commission along with Miles Young and Eric Mills.

Public Comment - None

7. Calendar Items - Commissioners will send via e-mail any agenda items for next month's issues.

8. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

Commissioner Kipnis will send draft minutes to Colleen, other Commissioners will send Colleen notes on the research they've done regarding the pit bull issue, Commissioners, Kipnis and Franklin will send the Commission's recommendation specific to mandatory spay neuter and breeding requirements. Colleen will consolidate this information, prepare a draft report, and send to Commissioner Franklin for review.

9. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 8, 2005
5:30 PM

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CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

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[Discussion Item]

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- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a five-year period.
[Discussion/Action Item]
- b. SF Health Code 42.3(c)(b) – Change of the time requirement for the scheduling of vicious and dangerous dog hearing dates, to be based not only on when the dog incident occurred but also upon when the dog and guardian can be found to receive notification.
[Discussion/Action Item]
- c. Status update regarding the request brought to our Commission last month to assist with urging City action be taken to remove the African Clawed Frogs a pond in Golden Gate Park.
[Discussion/Action Item]

8. New Business

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Proposal to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the issuance of a resolution condemning the sale of bear gall bladder and bile products and the encouragement of a community relations and educational campaign regarding humane alternatives to the farming and hunting of bears for this purpose.
[Discussion/Action Item]

9. Public Comment

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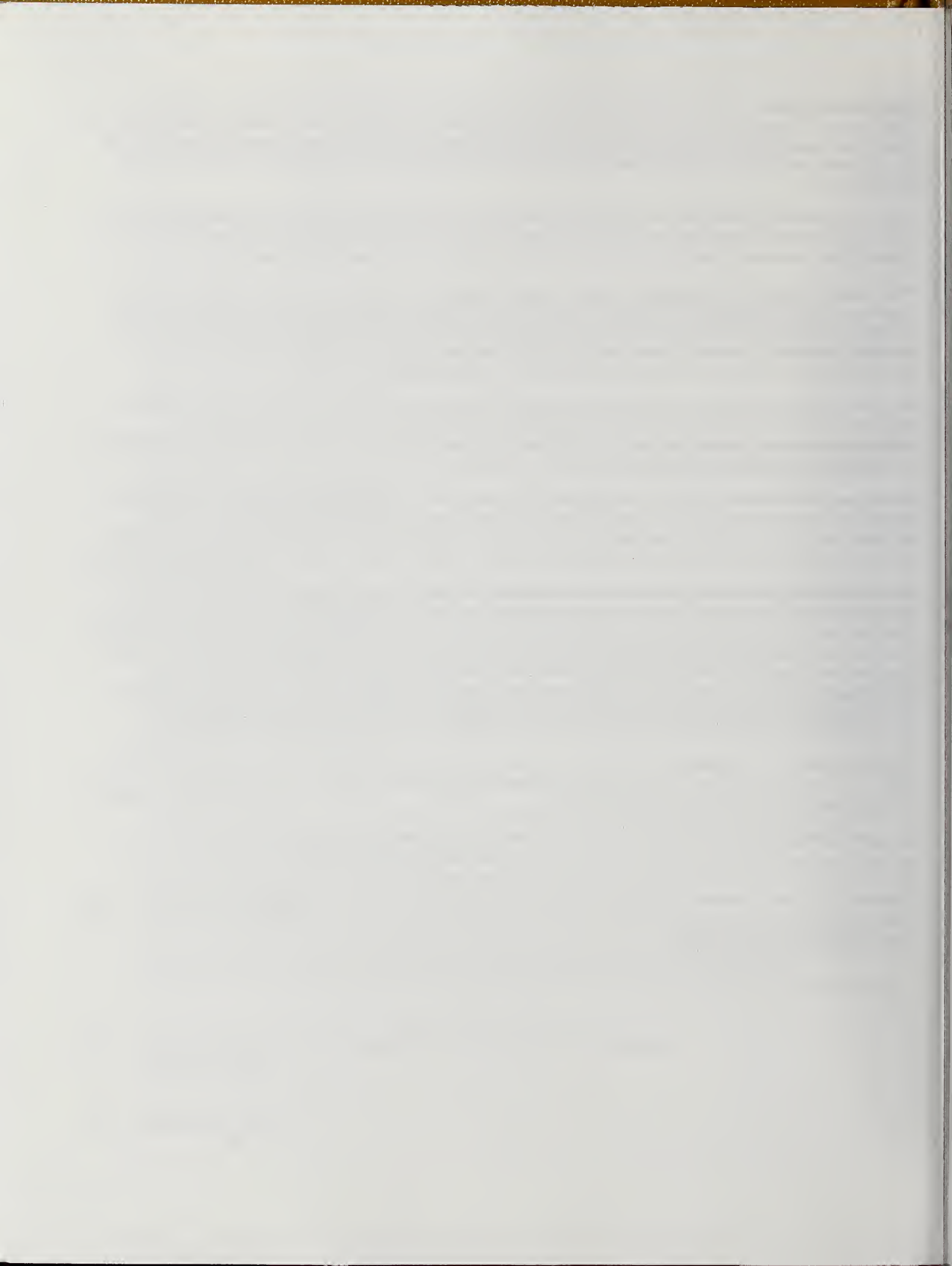
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[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare](#) >> [Meeting Information](#)**Commission of Animal Control and Welfare**

DOCUMENTS DEPT.

September 8, 2005

OCT 11 2005

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control & Welfare

SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC LIBRARY**Draft Meeting Minutes****September 8, 2005****1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Present: Commissioners Franklin, Kipnis, Weiss, DVM, Schulke, Yeager, Hamilton, Guldbeck, Herndon

Absent with excuse: Commission Kennedy, Chair

Commission Franklin will chair this meeting in the absence of Commission Kennedy.

2. Public Comment

Invited Speaker Sara Cohen, Hopalong Animal Rescue - spoke about hurricane Katrina rescue efforts. HSUS is organizing the relief effort. Hopalong is working with HSUS to coordinate efforts from the Bay Area. Volunteers who know how to work with animals are needed; vans are needed to transport animals back to the bay area for fostering.

Invited Speaker Kevin Connelly, In Defense of Animals (IDA) - IDA's Project Hope in Mississippi is helping in the rescue efforts. Set up rescue station in Jackson, MS and sent teams down to Waveland. IDA has set up a rescue fund on its web site where people can donate.

Eric Mills, Action for Animals - Important that we send money now instead of transporting supplies, which can take days.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the August 11, 2005 Meeting.

Commissioner Hamilton moved to accept meeting minutes with changes

Seconded by Commissioner Schulke

Passed unanimously

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

Commissioner Franklin -

B7 Bill 861 - Passed by State assembly, waiting for signature from Governor.

B7 The Commission's findings on mandatory spay neuter are being compiled and will be sent to Supervisor Duffy.

B7 City of Clear Lake has passed mandatory spay neuter of all dogs and cats.

B7 Important to microchip your animal given the recent disaster in the gulf.

B7 Future rescue protocols must be made given the fact that many families affected by Katrina are not leaving their homes because they are not allowed take their animals with them.

5. Old Business

5a. Endorsement of legislation that would prohibit those convicted of animal abuse/neglect from having animals for up to a five-year period.

Commissioner Guldbeck - The Commission does not have the ability to change the language from 3 to 5 yrs, per state law. The penalty must match the probationary period. We should try to stiffen local health ordinances. Judge always has the ability to extend the probationary period. This issue does not need to go to the Board of Supervisors.

No public comment.

5b. SF Health Code 42.3(c)(b) - Change of the time requirement for the scheduling of vicious and dangerous dog hearing dates, to be based not only on when the dog incident occurred but also upon when the dog and guardian can be found to receive notification.

Commissioner Herndon - met with Carl Friedman and two city attorneys; tweaked the language quite a bit; by next week should have final language. The final draft states that when the owner and/or dog are located, city must conduct a hearing between 15 and 90 days of locating owner and/or dog, and give 10 days notice.

Public Comment

Ron Thompson - requested clarification regarding what happens if the dog is found, but not the owner; asked if a dog could be put down even if the owner could not be found.

Eric Steinberg - commended the Commission and city attorney for trying to provide time for due process and speedy hearings. Wish there was a way to add stiffer penalties when owners fail to appear at hearing.

5c. Status update regarding the request brought to the Commission last month to assist with urging City action be taken to remove the African Clawed Frogs a pond in Golden Gate Park.

Commissioner Schulke - Called Rec. and Park Commissioner several times; spoke with President who said the Commission would have to look at protocol with regard to getting an item put on the agenda. Impression is that the Park and Rec. Commission is not very welcoming of the issue.

Public Comment

Eric Mills - has been in touch with Rec. and Park - President would be writing a letter to him as to why this issue would not be on their agenda. The pond has been drained a bit so that the frogs could be collected, but so far no action has been taken.

Miles Young - thanks Commissioner Schulke for following up with Rec. and Park. SF City Attorney suggested he go to the Park and Rec. Commission to discuss this issue.

6. New Business

a. Proposal to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the issuance of a resolution condemning the sale of bear gall bladder and bile products and the encouragement of a community relations and educational campaign regarding humane alternatives to the farming and hunting of bears for this purpose.

Commissioner Hamilton reported that bear bile is extracted and sold for traditional medicinal purpose sold mostly to Asian community. It is illegal in CA, but studies show that bear bile is being sold in Chinatown among other CA cities. SF Animal Care and Control has no authority to address this issue as it is under the jurisdiction of CA Fish and Game Department. Fish and Game does not have any wardens San Francisco. Recommends that the Commission ask the Board of Supervisors to officially recognize this problem and support an education initiative to get the word out.

Commissioner Hamilton moved to discuss this item

Seconded by Commissioner Kipnis

Passed unanimously

Public Comment

Laura Hoover - resident of SF who is concerned about this issue of bear farming; visited bear Animals Asia Foundation, dedicated to stop the practice of bear farming. Discussed the details of this practice. Will be working on education and outreach campaign to Chinese and other Asian Communities to inform them of the inhumane practice to extract the bile; alternative herbal remedies; and penalties incurred for trading these substances.

Miles Young - conducted undercover investigation; need to enforce the law here in CA. No one in the field to enforce the law.

Eric Mills - worth making an effort to get a Game Warden assign to San Francisco. Ask the Board of Supervisors to assign a warden.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Herndon - best not to ask the Board for an endorsement, but ask them for help by assigning a game warden to address all of the fish and game issues that have been brought to the Commission's attention - bear bile, frogs in Gold Gate Park, live animal markets. SF Animal Care and Control and the Police Department would then be able to assist the wardens in enforcing the law. ACC simply does not have the resources.

Commissioners Herndon and Guldbeck will prepare a written request to the Board of Supervisors asking for 3 game wardens to be assigned to the city of San Francisco. The Commission will review the request at its next meeting.

7. Public Comment

Ron Cole - Mayor should include animal rescue in the city's disaster plan.

Bob O'Brian - listen to tape SB 861 is on the governors desk; SB 914 crime for anyone to sell any dog less than 8 weeks old. Hearing on USCF's violation of animal welfare act to be held at the federal building on October 14.

8. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

1. Commissioner Schulke will continue to attend the Rec. and Park Commission meetings.
2. Commissioner Guldbeck and Hamilton will work on developing language for a requesting for game wardens in San Francisco.
3. Commissioner Herndon will keep the Commission up to date on the language for SF Health Code 42.3(c)(b) .
4. Commissioners will spread the word about the work that Hopalong Animal Rescue is doing with regard to Katrina rescue efforts and inform people how they can help.
5. Commissioner Kipnis will work with the city webmaster to expand links and/or pages on the Commission's web site.

Commissioner Hamilton moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Schulke

Passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:15.

SF Docs

From: Commissioner Kennedy [commissionerkennedy@yahoo.com] **Sent:** Fri 10/7/2005 5:09 PM
To: SF Docs; City Webmaster
Cc:
Subject: CANCELED MTG: Commission of Animal Control & Welfare Mtg.
Attachments:

Dear City Webmaster and Library Documents Manager:

The October 13th meeting for the Commission of Animal Control & Welfare has been canceled.
Please post immediately.

We will resume in November.

(There are several work/travel conflicts this month)

Thank you,
Laurie Kennedy, Chair

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11/13/05

cancelled



SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, November 10, 2005

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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.....
Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
.....

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11/10/05

MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074 (not currently operable)
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the September 8, 2005 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

- a. Outcome from 11/8/05 City Operations & Neighborhood meeting regarding the following items:
 - a. Penalties related to dog licensing
 - b. Penalties related to vicious and dangerous dogs
 - c. Mandating spay and neuter surgery for pit bulls and prohibiting non-permitted breeding of pit bulls
- b. Movie recommendation – The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill – playing at the Red Vic movie theater on December 6 & 7

- c. Event announcement - Benefit for the Friends of San Francisco Animal Care and Control - "YAPPY HOUR" Cocktail Party, dogs welcome, Hotel Monaco, Tuesday, November 15th, 7:00-9:00pm, \$50 admission.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports
[Discussion Item]

- a. Report from Commissioner Kipnis regarding contract she is doing to further enhance the SF/SPCA's Feral Cat Assistance Program.
[Commissioner Kipnis]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors
[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business
[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

8. New Business
[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
 - a. Explore what the Board of Supervisors could do to get a California Department of Fish and Game warden assigned to San Francisco to address local animal issues that fall outside of the purview of our city's Animal Care and Control Department. Determine how the Commission should proceed with a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.
[William Hamilton]
 - b. An emergency request to the SF Board of Supervisors for an immediate injunction against the SF/SPCA Feral Cat Assistance Program relating to the illegal abandonment of animals under CA Penal Code 597s.
[JR Yeager]

9. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

10. Calendar Items

- Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

.....

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

November 10, 2005

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION ON
ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 10, 2005
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Laurie Kennedy (Chair), Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager, William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon

2. Public Comment - none

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the September 8, 2005 minutes.

Commissioner Hamilton moved to accept the minutes with no changes
Seconded by Commissioner Franklin
Unanimous

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

a. Outcome from 11/8/05 City Operations & Neighborhood meeting regarding the following items:

- Penalties related to dog licensing - increased \$100
- Penalties related to vicious and dangerous dogs -registration increase to \$250; adjusted hearing dates to 45 days after the dog is found; 2 violations could result in misdemeanor; fees collected will go directly to Animal Care and Control Dept.
- Dufty focused issues on irresponsible dog owners with regard to mandating spay and neuter surgery for pit bulls and prohibiting non-permitted breeding of pit bulls. Goals of the legislation is to reduce the number of unwanted pits in our shelter system and to see a 50% reduction of pit bulls

b. Movie recommendation - The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill - playing at the Red Vic movie theater on December 6 & 7.

c. Event announcement - Benefit for the Friends of San Francisco Animal Care and Control - "YAPPY HOUR" Cocktail Party, dogs welcome, Hotel Monaco, Tuesday, November 15th, 7:00-9:00pm, \$50 admission.

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Commissioner Franklin - Rome, Italy passed a massive animal welfare legislation which includes a \$625 fine for dog owners that do not walk their dogs. bans display of pets for sale in store windows, gives legal recognition to the women of Rome who feed feral cats; forbids choke and electrical collars, declawing and clipping of tails and ears for cosmetic reasons.

Commissioner Schulke - Fund has been set up through the Northeast San Francisco conservancy for wild parrots habitat to ensure that the Monterey Cypress trees that are still standing will be cared for and that the urban habitat will be enhanced.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

Commission Kennedy introduced Daniel Crain, President of SPCA, who reported that the SPCA has contracted with Joanne Kipnis to further enhance the SF/SPCA's Feral Cat Assistance Program. Kipnis will be concentrating in 4 areas; Data Management and Administrative Protocols; Expansion of Volunteer Program; Information Gathering Related to Positions on Feral Cat Issues from City, Organizational, and Local Community Representatives; and Sustainable and Cost Effective Aftercare.

Commissioner Kennedy informed the Commission that Commissioner Kipnis consulted with the city attorney to assure that there is no conflict of interest with her role on the Commission.

5. Public Comment - none

Commissioner Schulke requested a written response from the city attorney regarding the issue of conflict of interest.

6. New Business

a. An emergency request to the SF Board of Supervisors for an immediate injunction against the SF/SPCA Feral Cat Assistance Program relating to the illegal abandonment of animals under CA Penal Code 597s. (Commissioner Yeager)

Commissioners Kennedy and Kipnis recused themselves from discussion and vote on this issue. Vice Chair Franklin chaired the meeting.

Commission Yeager presented the item for discussion:

- Cats are suffering and need our attention.
- SPCA is running a program with no guidelines and do not provide for the safety and long term sustainable care for the feral cats it returns to the streets.
- SPCA forces TNR on people to return cats to locations where the cats are not wanted.
- If the SPCA wants to save them all, then the SPCA needs to take care of them all.
- TNR stops the breeding not the suffering.
- No system in place to know when a caretaker no longer takes care of a colony.
- SPCA offers food, but not enough food to feed the animals.

- Tried to address this issue with the SPCA, ACC, and the Commission, as a member of the public. Nothing has been done.

Commissioner Yeager moved to discuss this item
Seconded by Commissioner Schulke.

Commissioner Herndon - Requested clarification regarding the injunction; not sure the action is valid. The City Attorney handles internal city matters; District Attorney handles what, in this case, would be a misdemeanor - criminal prosecution. The courts issue an injunction, not the Board of Supervisors. Board can, however, request an injunction through the district attorney.

Commissioner Guldbach - Need to be more specific about what the injunction is. If this is an issue of abandonment, the complaint should come through ACC. ACC, however, cannot hold Daniel Crain responsible for abandonment if he hasn't committed the abandonment.

Commissioner Yeager - Recommending the SPCA cease and desist the practice of TNR until certain conditions have been met.

Commissioner Franklin - This item, as originally stated, is not valid. Therefore, we cannot vote on it. However, the Commission will discuss this item and hear public comment.

Commissioner Yeager presented a slide show of cats being returned to what he considers to be inhumane, dangerous, and unhealthy areas including the central waterfront, China Basin, and India Basin.

Response from Daniel Crain - Mission of SPCA is to reduce the cat population through TNR. When someone walks away from a colony or drops off a cat, that is abandonment. There are holes in the system, but cats are taken care of as long as we know where they are. The SPCA does all it can for the cats. If they are in danger, they are moved. The intake rate has dropped by 16% since 1993. Adoption has increased by 16%. The way to get ahead is not to stop the program, but to get people helping the situation. SPCA volunteers spend their lives to save the cats. This is a life time job.

7. Public Comment

Pinky Kushner, Sierra Club - Criticized Commissioner Kennedy and Kipnis for not paying attention to Yeager's presentation. Sierra Club is interested in not the preservation of feral cats in San Francisco, but the preservation of the existing wildlife. Will get back to the Commission with the Club's positions on this.

Arlene Gemmill - Glad that Yeager has brought this issue up; it is cruel to leave a domestic cat on the street, reservoir of disease, best thing to do is try to find them a home and if not able, then euthanize instead of putting them back in the street.

Stan Manazie - Animal Fund - to abandon, one must first have ownership;

temporarily removing a cat from its environment to spay or neuter a cat can not be construed as ownership. There will be a legal challenge to the word abandonment.

Judy Miller - SPCA Cat Assistance Team (CAT) - SPCA has spayed/neutered over 15,000 cats; 3,000 participants in the program; Yeager showed only 3 or 4 areas. To show abandonment, must identify those people who have specifically abandoned their colonies. Yeager has abandoned colonies; Ms. Miller ended up taken care of the colony.

Janet Cunningham - CAT - Teacher and Humane Educator - Allie Cat Allies nominated SPCA as leading TNR program of the year. Manages 10 colonies. Never returns a cat to any area unless there is a caretaker. Networks, educates within the community about TNR.

Robert____Business Owner - Used to have a warehouse at Pier 70; evicted from that area but still takes care of 12 cats. New owners allow him to continue to care for the cats. Spent a lot of money on these cats; committed to these cats.

Chris Powel - National Park Service - Worked with the Marin Humane Society on dealing with cats north of the Golden Gate Bridge. Keep this discussion going. Invite other agencies and businesses to continue the dialog and as a community, decide the best way to solve the problem. Would like to be a part of the discussion.

Michele Blunt - CAT - SPCA should not be the only organization that has to find homes for feral cats - the city should put the effort into this.

Brent Platter - Center for Biological Diversity - Return of feral cats into the community has unintended consequences for other species, specifically the sea otter. Sea otters are dying due to diseases transmitted through cat feces. If we don't better manage the feral cat reintroduction program, sea otters are at risk of going extinct.

Cindy Reuter - CAT - Managed public housing project. Trapped and relocated cats because the houses were going to be torn down - caretaker's responsibility to take care of cats that are suffering and/or injured. Yeager has abandoned his cats and his anger is misplaced; SPCA program is very valuable.

Alan Hopkins - Golden Gate Audubon Society - Save the Quail Campaign is going well. Cat program needs to become an official program sanctioned by Board, as the Quail program did. Quail restoration program in process which includes many a variety of interested parties and groups. Can't depend just on SPCA volunteers, need a group of stakeholders to discuss this issue and come up with a plan; not just the SPCA.

Paula Katakis - Caretaker in Golden Gate Park - caretakers spend a lot of money and time taking care of the colonies; there are contingency plans in place when caretakers can no longer take care of their colonies. Yeager's reference to hoarding of animals is incorrect. Refer to Hoarding of Animals Research Consortium and find out what the scientists are doing about the

hording of animals.

Lisa Wane - Director of the Natural Areas Program for Recreation and Park Dept. - Met with staff and volunteers about colonies. Monitoring and tracking of the colonies is critical; adopt policy that protects the wildlife. Location of colonies can be detrimental to wildlife. Willing to participate in a working group that the SPCA might put together.

Bob O'Brian - Set up a system so that a caretaker is identified with an animal to prevent abandonment in the future. Create a system to find out who abandoned the animals.

Nadine Mae - CAT -thanked the CAT for all the work they have done; took cats out of an unsafe place. Like the idea of territories for wildlife. No one should trap a cat just to have it euthanized unless it is ill.

Mark _____ - Supports Yeager's motion for an injunction. Well documented affect that feral cats have on birds. When subcommittee meets, should have greater emphasis on separate areas where there are no wildlife.

Scott Anderson - PETA - This issue was brought up at the Commission meeting last year, but nothing has happened in that year. SPCA needs to spend more money on the feral cat program. Lack of commitment to spay /neuter. Why is there no low cost or free mobile spay/ neuter clinic for everyone; suggests promotion of mandatory differential licensing fees for companion animals and mandatory sterilization of adopted animals.

Ron Cole - There is a lack of communication between feral cat caretakers and the SPCA. Develop a caretaker evaluation form to assess colonies and gather information about the status of the colonies.

Jane Greenwald - Agrees with SPCA that the top priority is spay/ neuter. Success of spay/ neuter which allows the numbers to come down and now can address other issues. Many of the cats are on public property. Contracts would help identify those who are monitoring the colonies, as staff will change. Need a public group working on approaches to get the monitoring and care.

Nancy Wuerfel - CAT - Concerned that the attack on the SPCA is about hate. What is the positive that would happen if the SPCA shut down the program. SPCA is the only organization taking care of these cats. Yeager has no right to make the judgment call which cats live or die.

Eric Mills- Don't shoot the messenger - problems with TNR; criminal what is going on and the public is unaware. The city should be spending a lot of money on this problem. Decrease in quail due to feral cats.

L'Danielle Yacabucci- Cats establish colonies, not us. Who are we to decide who should live and who should die. Trap and removal does not work. Where cats are is where cats live. Yeager needs to work towards a solution instead of complaining.

Sharon Beals - Supports Kipnis in her role with the SPCA. Gather information

from all parties involved so that we can develop plan to go forwarded.

Silvia Ortize - Take in a feral cat from Pier 70. Able to get a cooperative partner with the recycle company at the Pier. Community needs to know more about feral cats and the work that the SPCA is doing - would be able to gain more support if the public is more educated.

Kelly Kasmersic - Supports TNR. SPCA needs to create guidelines for what constitutes a proper location for retuning feral cats - to be followed by ACC and the SPCA. Commission promised a year ago to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding the feral cats and that has never happened.

Martha Hoffman - CAT - infuriated by Yeager's presentation; inaccurate. 99% of the colonies are well cared for. Should not just trash the SPCA, but do something about it. Colonies are being reduced significantly. TNR works.

Mary Ann Buxton - SPCA Feral Cat Coordinator - Receive calls about abandoned cats. How do we better educate our community about spay /neuter? San Francisco is the safest place for homeless cats. SPCA offers free spay/ neuter for ferals, low cost for people's pets, partnership with ACC, dedicated volunteers. Feels like a personal attack on the SPCA which is destructive not constructive. SPCA does not abandoned cats.

Mary Huber - CAT - Number of cats has gone down drastically due to TNR.

Jill Cooney - IDA - Supports TNR; focus energy on making most effective program and offer positive alternative to those who don't want to euthanize.

8. Commission Discussion

Commissioner Franklin - the agenda item can't be voted on, however the Commission should discuss this issues and see what future agenda items may result from this discussion.

Commissioner Yeager - Came with solutions, but did not get a chance to speak to those solutions. Not every volunteer wants to give up their lives to take care of the colonies. There needs to be a system in place. Issue with the SPCA is that cats are forced back to their colony. Anger of being ignored, not having a chance to discuss this problem with Daniel Crain. This program is not sustainable. You can't expect volunteers to continue to feed these colonies.

Commissioner Schulke - Would not vote for the injunction, even if it were a valid motion. Suggests working with the SPCA and other groups and stakeholders to discuss voluntary guidelines that would assist the SPCA to assure a positive approach to bettering the TNR program.

Commissioner Franklin -Suggests that discussion include issues such as aftercare, health monitoring, colony requirements, guidelines for release, follow-up, vet low cost microchipping. Some of these are already happening, others may not...appears that the SPCA has stepped up to the plate and already begun working on this issue.

Commissioner Hamilton - Role of the Commission is not to form a subcommittee to advise or work with the SPCA, but to advise the Board of Supervisors. Current agenda item is not valid, therefore solution is to vote it down as is. Yeager may bring forth another type of proposal that would work at our next meeting. There will be positive fall out from this meeting and progress will be made in the direction that Yeager wants.

Commissioner Weiss - There are areas that can be improved, but it is not the Commission's role to advise SPCA program on how it is working.

Commissioner Schulke - Stated that the Commission does have the authority to make recommendations to the Board regarding requirements for the maintenance of animals in public, private and commercial care.

Commissioner Guldbeck - ACC has a great relationship with the SPCA and willing to support whatever needs to be done to develop some resolutions to the problem. Representatives from all organizations need to be present to move forward.

Commissioner Yeager - Need a way to find out why a cat has been brought in to ACC.

Commissioner Guldbeck - ACC needs to be careful about what information they ask when a cat is turned in. Public does not want to be asked so many questions. Need to research how we can be better at gathering information without chasing the public away. Need a better way to handle those members of the public who bring in a cat and then call back angered that the cat has been returned to the areas from where it was found. Point of clarification; any individual who is surrendering a cat and who has fed that cat for more than 30 days, is designated as the owner and must sign an owner surrender form.

Need to ask the surrenderer if the cat can come back. Will take this back to Carl Friedman.

Daniel Crain - SPCA needs help to handle the volume; is open to having further discussion about these issues.

Commissioner Franklin - Table this discussion for the next few months. Suggested that the Commission, at its February meeting, discuss possible recommendations to the SPCA for aftercare guidelines. The SPCA will also present a report as to the work they have been doing with regard to colony aftercare. The Commission can then decide whether to make a formal recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding this issue. In the meantime, Commissioners can think about possible recommendations for guidelines, put together a list of stakeholders, etc. and bring those to the February Commission meeting.

Commissioner Yeager: would like to see the following come from this meeting.

- a. Guidelines, which have been developed by a number of sources, that must be adhered to.
- b. Reform of ACC adoptions to include gathering information about where

the cat came from - gather the reasons for surrender
c. Sustainable aftercare program - how to pay for it.

9. Explore what the Board of Supervisors could do to get a California Department of Fish and Game warden assigned to San Francisco to address local animal issues that fall outside of the purview of our city's Animal Care and Control Department. Determine how the Commission should proceed with a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Franklin moved to discuss item
Seconded by Commissioner Schulke

Commissioner Hamilton moved to withdraw the item based on his research, as follows:

- a. Fish and Game indicated the budget will not allow it
- b. Fish and Game work in other areas of the state and have more pressing needs
- c. Two ongoing vacancies for wardens in San Fran, but the Fish and Game Dept. has found it hard to attract and retain wardens given the cost of living in San Fran even with an additional \$100 each month.
- d. Courts have ruled that San Fran enforcement agencies may enforce state laws regarding live animal markets and the sale of illegal animal products, but political pressure has thwarted these efforts.

Commissioner Guldbeck - this all seems to come back to budgetary issues. So why do we have a Fish and Game Attorney to prosecute these violations.

Commissioner Kennedy - research what cases are being addressed by the City Attorney for Fish and Game.

Commissioner Schulke - Commission can still recommend to the Board about being proactive to appoint a Fish and Game warden in San Fran.

Commissioner Guldbeck - think of other solutions and in the meantime, continue to call in complaints on a regular basis and not get discouraged.

10. Public Comment

Ron Cole - two agencies- federal and state; one of them is located in Burlingame. Will send Commissioner Guldbeck the information about these agencies.

Eric Mills - office in Burlingame is federal office. Used to have 13 people, now we have 7 in San Francisco. SPCA should hire a humane officer to address the live animal markets in China Town.

Commissioner Hamilton moved to withdraw the item
Unanimous

11. Public Comment

Nadine Mae - Get the word out to the public about feral fix, what services are

available in San Francisco, who to call about what to do with an animal; people have not been referred to the feral fix program when they have called ACC.

Bob Obrian - Recommend to the Board of Supervisors, for ethical reasons, a ban on use of restraints on monkeys and the importation of wild monkeys for experimentation. 29 monkeys in restraints, 25 of the 29 are also on food restriction diets, all have recording mechanism in their head to record brain imaging.

Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

1. Commissioners, who are interested, will get people together to discuss recommendations for guidelines, prepare list of interested parties.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, January 12, 2006

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
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12/06
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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074 (not currently operable)
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the November 10, 2005 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
 - a. Discussion of the Commission's work with regard to collaborative problem solving and achievement of goals. A review of the year's accomplishments and challenges to determine how the Commission can continue to be of service to the city and county of San Francisco.

9. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

10. Calendar Items

- Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare](#) >> [Meeting Information](#)

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

January 12, 2006

San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & Welfare

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 12, 2006

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Laurie Kennedy, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager, William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon

Absent with excuse: Commissioner Sherri Franklin

2. Public Comment

Richard Fong stated that the Park and Rec. Department has begun working on what to do with the old elephant habitat at the SF Zoo. Reported about 3 cats located at the corner of Jackson and Powell. Wondered if they were being cared for.

Susan Wheeler, SPCA Feral Cat Volunteer, - was not at the November meeting but wanted to address comments made by Commissioner Yeager at the November Commission meeting. Spoke about a feral cat colony on Minnesota and 24th. Wheeler stated that she had been contacted by a local business owner, who feeds that colony, that a black cat may have a broken leg. Wheeler contacted the SPCA about this cat., which was later euthanized at ACC. The cat was not abandoned Wheeler will be back to further discuss this situation at the February Commission meeting.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the November 10, 2005 Meeting

Commissioner Yeager wanted to add a statement made by Commissioner Guldbeck regarding ACC's policy on cat surrender. According to Guldbeck, if the person surrendering the cat has fed that cat for more than 30 days, he/she designated as the owner and must sign an owner surrender form. Guldbeck will report back to the Commission about whether this is a policy or just rule of thumb.

Commissioner Hamilton moved to approved the minutes as amended
Motion seconded by Commissioner Schulke
Motion passed unanimously

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

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Commissioner Kennedy - This meeting gives the Commission an opportunity to begin the new year on the right foot and to look back at last year and see what helped us be effective. According to our Commissioner Handbook, the Commission is required to review our process periodically to determine whether we are adhering to established process and standards of conduct.

The Commission agreed not to cancel a meeting if there were no agenda items, as it would provide an opportunity for public comment.

5. New Business

a. Discussion of the Commission's work with regard to collaborative problem solving and achievement of goals. A review of the year's accomplishments and challenges to determine how the Commission can continue to be of service to the city and county of San Francisco.

Commissioner Kipnis moved to discuss the item
Motion seconded by Commissioner Schulke
Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kennedy asked Commissioners Herndon, Guldbeck, and Schulke, who have had a long history with the Commission, to discuss the elements of successes, approaches, and strategies that have helped the Commission in achieving its goals.

Commissioner Schulke - one element of success is keeping open lines of communication with appropriate parties, including the Board of Supervisors and other city agencies, and maintaining these relationships; cited the success of the Horse Carriage issue.

Commissioner Guldbeck - one element of success is to have a few Commissioners work together on an issue, confer the city attorney, and then meet with the appropriate Supervisor(s).

Commissioner Herndon - it is important to look at both control and welfare issues, which help us determine which supervisors would be most supportive of our efforts. Important not to step on legislative toes; cited the example of the live animal market, which became the city against the Asian community, who questioned why humane rules would be enforced against them but not against the crab and lobster dealer at Fisherman's Wharf. Commission needs to be reasonable about our approach to the Board; make only recommendations that we believe will get results. Important to keep our reputation and credibility intact.

Commissioners suggested the following issues for discussion:

- Restore the voting rights of the city department representatives
- Absence of both Park and Rec. and Health Department representatives from Commission meetings
- Quarterly reports to the Board of Supervisors
- How we are doing in terms of whether we are meeting Standards of

Conduct

- Scope of jurisdiction and what avenues are available for issues that do not fall under our jurisdiction
- Meeting preparation
- Expansion of our Web site

Commission agreed to discuss the restoring the vote of nonvoting members, the absence of reps from Park and Rec and the Health Department, and jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction

The Commission acknowledged that at times, items brought before the Commission by Commissioners and/or the public do not necessarily fall under the Commission's jurisdiction. It is also sometimes difficult to determine whether an item is under Commission jurisdiction. After much discussion, the Commission agreed to the following:

With regard to issues brought up by the public - Commission will develop clear guidelines on what issues fall under Commission jurisdiction. Develop a list of possible referrals for those issues that do not fall under Commission jurisdiction. In the event that a member of the public wants the Commission to act on an issue outside the Commission's jurisdiction, the Commission will listen to the issue and inform that individual of that fact, and offer possible referrals to which the individual may seek assistance.

With regard to issues sponsored by Commissioners - items brought forth for discussion and/or action must be under the Commission's jurisdiction. It is each Commissioner's responsibility to determine whether an issue is under the Commission's jurisdiction and to have a goal for that issue prior to submitting the item to the Chair. Prior to finalizing the agenda, the Chair may question any agenda item that appears to be out of the Commission's jurisdiction and confer with the sponsoring Commissioner.

In the event that the Commission is uncertain about whether an agenda item is under its jurisdiction, it may enter into a time-limited discussion of the item and make any of the following actions:

1. determine that the item is not under its jurisdiction and vote to end discussion on the item
2. determine that the item is under its jurisdiction and proceed with a full discussion
3. determine that there is not enough information about the issue, table the item, send it back to the sponsoring Commissioner to do more research on the issue

Commissioner Hamilton will work on developing a new page for the Commission's web site, which will clarify the Commission's jurisdiction and provide guidance to the public as to where they can seek assistance on animal issues.

Restoring the vote of city department representatives

Commissioner Schulke believes that expertise from city departments is a great benefit to the Commission and it would behoove us to have their

votes. Restoring the vote might also entice representatives from the Health Department and Park and Rec., to start attending meetings again.

Commissioner Herndon stated that following the Commission's actions taken on the live animal market issue, the Board of Supervisors acted to remove the voting rights of the Commission's city department representatives. Herndon suggested that the Board may have believed that city representatives were voting in the best interest of the city, instead of in the best interest of the public. Furthermore, there are no other city Commissions who give voting rights to city department representatives. Herndon also stated that he is comfortable not having voting rights. Should he ever vote in a manner that the public does not agree with, he would be put in an awkward position relative to his role as a public official.

Commissioner Guldbeck stated that she is comfortable not having the right to vote. She would be much more reserved as Commissioner if she was required to vote, given that she would have to vote on behalf of the department head, regardless of what she personally believed to be the right way to vote. Furthermore, not having the right to vote allows Carl Friedman to have a designee on the Commission instead of him having to attend the meetings.

With regard to the ongoing absence of representatives from both the Health Department and Park and Rec., it was agreed that Commissioner Guldbeck will follow up with her contacts at the Health Department and Commissioner Kennedy will contact the head of Park and Rec. to discuss this issue. The Commission agreed that the most effective way to resolve this issue may simply be to inform both representatives when an agenda item directly affects their department and strongly encourage them to attend the meeting.

After Commission discussion of the pros and cons of this issues, the Commission agreed not to peruse restoring voting right of city department representatives.

Meeting Preparation

Information Dissemination. Commissioner Kipnis suggested that given the amount of information presented at meetings, the Commission develop rules for dissemination of materials prior to meetings, in accordance with the Sunshine Law. It would be helpful if the Commission had ample opportunity to read through relevant materials prior to discussion of an item. Commission agreed to keep written materials down to a minimum, and only include the key points that are relevant to the agenda item.

Commissioner Kennedy affirmed that the Commission can share information with each other prior to the meeting as long as the information does not contain any personal opinion or recommendation relevant to an agenda item. Commissioners Schulke reminded the Commission that all materials provided to Commissioners must be available to the public at meetings.

Time Limitations for Commissioners. The Commission agreed that in order to use meeting time efficiently, Commissioners who must be fully prepared

when sponsoring an agenda item. The Commissioner must state the goal of the item at the beginning of the presentation, present the key points, and be concise. Knowing the goal of the item will help the Commission determine how much time is needed to discuss the issue, taking into consideration how much public comment there will be on the issue. It was agreed that although the Commission would not mandate time limits, Commissioners should be able to present their item within 10 minutes, in most cases.

Commissioners agreed to submit the approximate amount of time needed for presentation when submitting an agenda item to the Chair. The Chair may recommend specific time limits on certain items based on: (1) requested amount of time; (2) the content of the item and other items on the agenda; (3) the number of items on the agenda; and (4) the number of people who want to provide public comment, which will be assessed at the meeting.

Time limitations for special speakers. The Commission agreed that the purpose of inviting special speakers to a meeting is to educate the Commission and the public on the agenda item, not to support the Commissioner's position on the item. The Commissioner who invited the speaker must adequately prepare the speaker by informing him/her of the type of information that needs to be conveyed and **encourage** the speaker to keep the presentation to 10 minutes, as there will be an opportunity for the speaker to answer questions following the presentation.

6. Public Comment

Mary Ann Buxton, SPCA Feral Cat Program Coordinator - Refuted comments made by Commissioner JR Yeager at the November Commission meeting, referring to Item 6a of the November meeting minutes.

- Bullet point #1: Cats are brought to the SPCA for s/n by volunteers and guardians who are providing aftercare.
- Bullet point #2: Every new person who presents a trapped cat to Feral Fix signs an SF/SPCA document called "Feral Fix Program Guidelines." The SPCA also assists volunteers in the long term care of feral cat colonies.
- Bullet point #3: Cats are voluntarily returned by volunteers.
- Bullet point #5: After TNR the health of the animal is 100% improved because its received s/n medical care and because volunteers provide aftercare.
- Bullet point #8: The SF/SPCA Feral Cat Program and its volunteers have: (1) taken over a third of JR's colonies and SPCA volunteers and business owners now provide aftercare; (2) have found new locations for 12 colony cats that he cared for. In only 2 of the cats' situations did we agree that relocation was imperative to the cat's safety. The other 10 feral cats were rescued by the SPCA out of ACC after he took them there in a few days time; (3) have done post-surgery recovery care and

the return of cats for him he's brought to feral fix because he made no plans to pick them up at the end of the day; (4) have found feeders for JR when he's abruptly decided to quit feeding.

Michele Blunt, SPCA Feral Cat Volunteer - Refuted comments made by Commissioner Yeager and public speakers at the November Commission meeting.

- Commissioner Yeager presented a slide show of cats being returned to what he considers to be inhumane, dangerous and unhealthy areas including the central waterfront, China Basin and India Basin. These cats had their left ear tipped, looked plump and healthy, and were returned to their homes. Where they live is their home and where aftercare is being provided.
- Page 3 -Studies show that feral cats carry no more disease than domestic cats that live in homes.
- Page 3 - The Protection Agency Office of Water states that the top 3 sources for fecal contamination are livestock, birds, and dogs.
- Page 4 - The main cause for reduction of wildlife is 1) habitat loss 2) global warming 3) pesticide use
- Page 4 - The SPCA feral fix program is successful because there is no big brother type of monitoring.
- Page 4 - Studies show that feral cats are not the main reason for decline in bird populations.
- Page 4 - SPCA is spending ½ million per year on feral cat program. Every animal that is adopted out is s/n and SPCA provides low-cost s/n to the public.
- Page 4 - The SPCA has a 24 hour hot line that goes directly into the feral cat program office and these calls get responded to daily. Feral Cat Program works closely with the community and its CAT volunteers.
- Page 4 - "No laws are being broken. TNR has been proven to be the only method to improve the lives of feral cats. If public were unaware 15,000 + feral cats would not have gone through the SF Feral Fix program over the last 12 years.

Ron Cole - There is a web site being built on Breed Specific Legislation; will provide the name of a woman who he suggested the Commission invite to present data on dog bites.

7. Adjournment

Commissioner Schulke moved to adjourn meeting.
Motion seconded by Commissioner Hamilton
Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.



SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, February 9, 2006
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074 (not currently operable)
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

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3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the January 12, 2006 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

- a. Announcement: free micro-chipping clinic at Animal Care and Control – Sunday, February 12, 2006
- b. Announcement: The SF/SPCA and The American Red Cross are offering a Pet First Aid class to the public on Saturday, February 18th between 9:00-1:00

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors
[Discussion Item/Action]

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7. Old Business
[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. A discussion of the components of an effective feral cat management plan
 - Guest Speaker: Daniel Crain, President of The San Francisco SPCA

8. New Business
[Discussion/Action Item]

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11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps
[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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February 9, 2006

**San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & Welfare**

**Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 9, 2006**

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss
DVM, J.R. Yeager, William Hamilton, Richard Schulke

Absent with excuse: Commissioners Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon

2. Public Comment

Lee Sinclair – Met with Jackie Speir and representatives from UCSF. Requests the Commission's endorsement of a proposal presented to USCF regarding funding a position for an animal welfare liaison. Will send a copy of the proposal to the Commission.

Susan Wheeler – Would like to see the Commission revisit the Chinese live animal market issue, in light of the bird flu epidemic. With a new Mayor, maybe something can be done about this problem.

Eric Mills – Action for Animals – A film crew is doing a documentary on the animal movement and wants to visit China Town in Oakland and San Francisco. Got a call from Michele Tsi regarding a butcher who was chopping up a live turtle with the head still on. Above the butcher was a photo of the butcher with Mayor Newsom. This is a

hot political issue that no one wants to touch. Would like to see the SPCA have some humane officers to address the issues in China Town. Suggests the prohibition of the sale of live turtles and frogs. Would like to change the cruelty laws. Spoke to Fish and Game Commission in Sacramento. Commission instructed the Deputy Director to do a survey of the markets.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the January 12, 2006 Meeting

Commissioner Kipnis acknowledged changes provided by Commissioners Yeager and Hamilton.

Public Comment – Mary Ann Buxton – Provided changes to public comment.

Motion made by Commissioner Kipnis to accept the minutes as amended

Motion seconded by Commission Schulke

Passed unanimously

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

Role of the Commission is to be an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors. Every item on the agenda will have an opportunity for public comment. All items are sponsored by Commissioners who will introduce the item, followed by public comment and Commission discussion. Received feedback that on this month's agenda, Commissioner Yeager's name was not included with an item. Will do so in the future on a regular basis.

Public Comment -L'Danyielle Yacobucci- Confused about the way the feral cat item was introduced. The item appeared to be a discussion with Daniel Crain, not an item sponsored by Commissioner Yeager.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Hamilton announced that the Friends of Animal Care and Control has been sponsoring free microchipping clinic for five years. Will be doing this every other month due to a decline in numbers of animals that need microchipping. The next clinic is at Animal Care and Control on Sunday, February 12, 2006. Will be part of an event cosponsored with the SPCA.

Commission Kennedy announced that the The SF/SPCA and The American Red Cross are offering a Pet First Aid class to the public on Saturday, February 18th between 9:00-1:00.

Public Comment – None

6. Old Business

a. A discussion of the components of an effective feral cat management plan

Guest Speaker: Daniel Crain, President of The San Francisco SPCA

Commissioner Kennedy - This issue provides an opportunity for collaboration. This is a discussion item only that will involve the full Commission.

Commissioner Yeager - This item is for discussion only. The goal of the item is an adoption of a feral cat management plan for San Francisco that leads to negative population growth/zero population. Would like Commission feedback. Would like to see a package plan presented to the Board of Supervisors that includes the following means for reaching the goal: (1) mandatory spay neuter for domestic and feral cats; (2) mandatory cats indoors; (3) broader public education campaigns; (4) TNR. Still a lot of questions about the existing TNR program including: (1) TNR management and general guidelines; (2) feral colony location; (3) sustainable aftercare; and (4) ACC adoptions. Commissioner Yeager spoke to specific questions related to these areas.

Daniel Crain- Thanked the Commission and Commissioner Yeager for bringing this issue forward. Proud to work with the SPCA staff and volunteers, by bringing the numbers down.

SPCA is one agency that is doing what it can to reduce the feral cat populations. 16,923 spay neuter surgeries, all free of charge, were performed since 1994. Other programs affected by the feral fix program as ACC partnership, foster program, adoptions program and cat behavior program – not just the spay neuter clinic. Cost of surgery over the years has gone up considerably. Impound rate has diminished 48%; euthanized rates declined by 84%. Last year was the first time the ACC has euthanized less than 1,000 cats. Impounds go down due to lower birth rates.

Progress made includes; (1) revised colony management guidelines; (2) development of CAT Volunteer Agreement; (3) formalized training for colony caregivers; (4) outside contract help to assist with data gathering and reporting. Agreed with Commissioner Yeager that colony caregiving is a huge commitment. SPCA is making progress towards making sure the colonies are well taken care of including knowing when a primary caretaker is not able to follow-up on his/her responsibilities and provide back-up.

Limitations include need for more funding, volunteers, lack of community understanding about the feral fix program and of the ACC - SPCA partnership. Many myths about feral cats including cats living short, miserable lives, feral cat programs are not sustainable, feral cats cannot be eliminated using non lethal methods.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Hamilton – Still not sure this is under our mandate. Adoption of management plan by whom? So many questions raised that the Commission nor the city have control over. Most of what is proposed would need to be under the jurisdiction of Animal Care and Control. Mandatory spay neuter would require asking the city to spend a lot of money and resources. Need a lot of input from Animal Care and Control on this issue.

Commissioner Weiss – Very difficult to convince the Board of Supervisors to spay neuter all dogs; will be harder to enforce this on cats indoors.

Commissioner Schulke – Not sure how Yeager's plan would be enforced through the city. Would require the SPCA to voluntarily collaborate with other groups. The Commission can encourage but not have jurisdiction over that collaboration. Support mandatory spay neuter, but does not believe that Board would touch the issue of mandatory spay neuter for cats.

Commissioner Kennedy – Issue of mandatory spay neuter enforcement has much to do with financial resources and therefore, the Commission needs to get feedback from Animal Care and Control.

Commissioner Yeager - Believes that mandatory spay neuter would be supported by the city. For some people just knowing that spay neuter is the law would make

people abide by it. No reason to stop going forward even if some people will not abide by the law.

Commissioner Kipnis – Based on experience, part of the Commission's strategy for success is to consider whether the Board of Supervisors would take on a specific issue before the Commission proceeds with its recommendation. The Commission also needs to consider non-legislative way to address issues and concerns, which can be just as effective.

Commissioner Hamilton –Yeager's plan is a Cat Management Plan, not just a feral cat management plan since it does address mandatory spay neuter for domestic cats. The plan is asking for too much and may stretch the credibility of the Commission before the Board. Hamilton cites an example of a colony cat hit by a car which was brought to Pets Unlimited by ACC. Cat was returned to ACC for care. This situation became an issue of who was responsible for the cat. This issue of ownership must be decided before we go to the Board with a recommendation.

Commissioner Franklin –With regard to TNR, the SPCA is addressing many of the TNR issues raised in Yeager's plan. The city does not have the funds or interest to deal with TNR.

Commissioner Kennedy – If ACC would support the issues of mandatory spay neuter, they might have more sway with the Board. Hard to know that without ACC representation at this meeting. Furthermore, SPCA will be getting valuable data together regarding feral cat situations. This will help direct the resources and actions to manage the feral cat program. At some point we may be able to ask. Would like to see more data before going forth with a TNR resolution.

Daniel Crain –SPCA supports mandatory spay neuter. Does not have an opinion about leash laws for cats but does encourage that cats are kept in doors. SPCA does not have a mechanism to assure that cats adopted are kept inside.

Commissioner Yeager – Asked for clarification on the progress made by the SPCA with regard to colony management.

Daniel Crain - Training has improved, back-up buddy system; most improvement is the getting data pulled together. Called upon Mary Ann Buxton to discuss colony data.

Mary Ann Buxton - Colony data reflects a sample of the colonies throughout the city. Shows the decrease in numbers. Currently expanding our database to track the number of cats and colonies.

Commissioner Yeager - Concerned that since cats are forced back where people may not want them. No mechanism to cover those circumstances. Costs a great deal of money and so much efforts to take care of cats that are not wanted back after they are spayed and neutered, specifically in areas near the waterfront. Has 50 cats to take care of. What is the incentive to volunteer if volunteers get overloaded.

Commissioner Franklin - This work can easily lead to burn out. How does the SPCA deal with volunteers who are close to burnout, need help.

Mary Ann Buxton - Will work to find back-up volunteers if a caretaker needs help or is burnt out. Important that volunteers communicate with the SPCA when they are feeling burnt out. Need the volunteers to work with the SPCA, not just leave without warning.

Public Comment

Dana Smith - SPCA Volunteer - Contradictions in Yeager's plan. Plan discusses mandatory cats indoors and laws that prevent free roaming in general, which would lead to no feral cats -to round up and kill. Questions raised by Yeager in his plan provide a disincentive; a lot of the points are obstacles to supporting the TNR program. We do what we can. Requiring 100% success rate for TNR and life time care would prevent SPCA from other activities such as adopting out cats and dogs.

Brent Platter - Center for Biological Diversity - Sea otters are decreasing due to diseases from feral cat feces. TNR program must be effective in reducing suffering as well as population size throughout the city. Scientific evidence from JAVMA cites specific criteria to have an effective TNR program; (1) neutering 71% of feral cat population; (2) caring capacity for feral cats is reduced; (3) scale of program must be small. The data presented today does not indicate that these criteria are being met. Commission should recommend these criteria to the Board of Supervisors.

Michele Blunt - SPCA Volunteer - Recommend to Board that it take a step in dealing with TNR; develop public service announcements; need education campaign

Lana Bajsel – Knows many volunteers who are feeding and trapping and managing cats in bad parts of town; people who live in these areas are feeding those cats, although not admitting that they are. Not our job to determine what areas are good for cats. Against cat indoor policy. Mandatory spay neuter should be for all animals.

Eric Mills – Commend SPCA. Supports HSUS statement that the decision to maintain colonies should be made with a community-based approach to minimize the colony effect on wildlife. Do not set up colonies where they can affect wildlife.

Susan Wheeler – SPCA Volunteer – Brought forth the TNR resolution when on the Commission as an educational tool. Education, not laws. People will not register their colonies. PETA has gone out after managed cat colonies and taken them in to be euthanized.

Alan Hopkins – Audubon Society – None of us are for round up and kill. Currently no oversight on public lands; no rules for the program; volunteers do not understand the wildlife issues; colony managers do not have wildlife experience. Need to look at how to do this right. No need for an undercover program; get real data and make it work right.

Lisa Wayne – Rec. and Park Dept (Natural Areas Program) – Has done TNR; urges the Commission to keep on this issue. The feral cat management plan is a good first step. Most concerned with wildlife and locations of feral cat colonies. Did not see anything in the SPCA materials that addresses wildlife. Concerned about sustainable aftercare. Concerned about release of cats brought to ACC. Colony records need to be public. Urge the Commission to ask the SPCA to invite other stakeholders who are supporters of wildlife to participate in development of guidelines.

Virginia Handley – Animal Switchboard – The law states that any injured stray is to get emergency medical care from Animal Care and Control. 15 years ago mandatory spay neuter for cats was dropped due to the feral cat issue. Recommend to the Board that there be an ordinance for mandatory spay neuter of owned cats who go outdoors.

Maria Alioto – SPCA Volunteer – Done TNR over 10 yrs. Project Bay Cat Foster City, Audubon Society and Homeless Cat Network all collaborated to get cats spayed and neutered. SPCA is doing an amazing job; up to the volunteers to determine what they can handle.

Nadine Mae – No one sets up colonies; they arise from people who dump cats. Most colonies are in people's yards, not public lands. Offended by implication that colony care givers do not care about other types of wildlife. Would like to see us all work together to reduce the feral cats. Do not publicize list of colonies because we do not want cats dumped there. Where we have not enough volunteers, we have distributed Good Samaritan flyers to educate the community about the help we need. Education is very important. Feral cats can be socialized.

Bill Carlin – Endorses mandatory spay neuter and public education. The rest of the feral cat management plan is not ready for prime time. Plan contains many questions with no answers, no data and no facts. Endorses the possibility of mandatory spay neuter for all cats and dogs; endorses the SPCA's TNR program; and endorses public education.

Martha Hoffman – SPCA Volunteer – Colonies are not set up by people, they are already there. We work with cats where they are. Colonies on public lands are under complete oversight and there is no uncontrolled release of cats taken from ACC. Opposes mandating cats indoors. Cats on leashes is an absurd idea.

Jane Greenwald – Supports the do-nothing position. Because resources have been focused on spay neuter, the numbers are low enough so that we can take better care of the cats. Would like to see city policy statement endorsing TNR on public land. Would like to see microchipping, if there are available funds. Cats by the waterfront is a bit iffy, but the colonies in the neighborhoods are fed very well. Mandatory spay neuter does not effect ferals – should do a study of the issue first.

Marion Gourley – SPCA Volunteer – Could use more dedicated volunteers to help with TNR and feral colony management. No need or time for external committee which will delay TNR; based on five years of phone calls, the majority of community members want to support TNR versus trap and kill. Feral cats need positive advocacy. TNR works for the cats. Supports mandatory spay neuter for those cats that are brought to ACC before returning to owner.

L'Danyielle Yacabucci – SPCA Volunteer – Is there a position Commissioner Yeager would take that does not kill feral cats. Volunteers are not interested in playing god. Had to euthanize a 10 yr old feral cat because she was injured and it was in the best interest of the cat. Wanted to return the cat to her colony but was told she could not do that. How is it that the best interest of humans is becoming more important than the best interests of the animals. Laws do not work. We are not hiding the colonies, we are keeping them safe.

Richard Fong – Be proactive. Look at alternative ways of birth control.

7. Commission Discussion

Commissioner Kennedy – Need more stats on many of the issues presented in order to move forward. Support mandatory spay neuter for animals brought to ACC as strays and then returned back to their owners.

Commissioner Franklin – Carl Friedman stated that once an animal is brought into the ACC, it is someone's property and therefore they cannot be altered. In Oakland they do have mandatory spay neuter addressing this situation.

Commissioner Schulke –Support mandatory spay neuter. ACC point of view and more stats would be helpful to help make a recommendation on this issue. Education is needed.

Commissioner Weiss –Our role is to hear from ACC and SPCA in terms of what they need from the Commission in order for the Commission to move forward. Can the city give money to the SPCA to assist with TNR.

Commissioner Hamilton – Any organization can apply for funds through the city.

Commissioner Kipnis – Support mandatory spay neuter. Education is needed. Emphasize the ACC and SPCA partnership as a base for an education campaign.

Commissioner Schulke will research the possibility of an effective education campaign, what it would entail, funding sources, and bring the item back to the Commission at a future meeting.

Commissioners Kennedy and Franklin will research the issue of mandatory spay neuter for ACC animals being returned to their owners.

Commissioner Yeager –Will research free roaming cat laws and bring this issue back to the Commission. Supports the Natural Areas approach. Encourages the SPCA to dialog with groups interested in the effect of TNR on wildlife. To discuss the location of

colonies and impact on wildlife.

8. Public Comment

Virginia Handley – Animal Switchboard – Suggests that the Commission ask the Board to pass a local ordinance on the live animal markets; referred to Law AB238. Update: Pit Bull law passed. Law prohibiting selling puppies under 8 weeks old passed. In the works is a bill for establishing minimum requirements for trapping wildlife.

9. Calendar Items

E-mail items to Kennedy Commissioner e-mail. Schulke would like to address the issue of Hare Live Coursing. Hamilton would like to discuss the draft list of outside resources for our web site.

10. Task Allotments

1. Commissioner Schulke will research and look into potential funding for education campaign through the city.
2. Commissioner Kennedy and Franklin will look at the possibility of legislating mandatory spay neuter for animals that go through ACC.
3. Commissioner Yeager will research free roaming laws in existence.

11. Adjournment

Commissioner Schulke moved to adjourn meeting

Motion seconded by Commissioner Franklin.

Passed unanimously

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 pm

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 9, 2006
5:30 PM

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Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager, William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
.....

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WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the February 9, 2006 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- a. Discuss recommending that the Board of Supervisors support Assembly member Hancock's bill, AB 21110, which would make rabbit coursing a crime throughout the state.
[Commissioner Schulke]
- b. Discussion regarding the development and web posting of a referral list of resources for the community to use to address animal related concerns or questions.
[Commissioner Hamilton]
- c. Discuss making a recommendation that all cats and dogs taken into custody at Animal Care and Control be spayed or neutered prior to being reclaimed and released to their owners/guardians.
[Commissioners Franklin and Kennedy]

9. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

10. Calendar Items

- Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information](#)

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

March 9, 2006

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control & Welfare

Draft Meeting Minutes Thursday, March 9, 2006

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager, William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, and Bill Herndon

Absent with excuse: Commissioner Joanne Kipnis

2. Public Comment

L-Danyielle Yacobucci – wants as many reference documents to be posted on website as possible

Rex Reginald – Has legislation proposal and has been developing support for pet-friendly landlords to get tax breaks/credits. Would like commission to take up this issue. Also wants tougher legislation/reward money for dog-fighting.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the February 9, 2006 Meeting

Public Comment – none

Motion made by Commissioner Hamilton to accept the minutes as amended
Motion seconded by Commission Schulke
Passed unanimously

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

6. Old Business

- a. Discuss recommending that the Board of Supervisors support Assembly member Hancock's

Commissioner Schulke -- asked the Commission advise SF Board of Supervisors to support and back Assemblyperson Hancock's Bill 2110 that would make coursing of live animals illegal – has no place in this state or city. Many other states have banned this intensely cruel sport masquerading as dog training. The bill would mandate for other alternatives to using live animals. With our support, the support of the Supervisors, and support of citizens all over the state we can help Hancock's bill make it past the powerful hunting

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industry's lobbying efforts to kill this bill and criminalize this horrible activity as soon as possible. Channel 7 did a report that showed this activity.

Commission discussion about the bill, the sport, the opposition, the alternatives to using live-animals.

Commissioner Guldbeck – This falls under 597B of the penal code and is not allowed in the state of California. The bill doesn't outline this sport specifically but if it were to happen in SF it would be prosecuted as a crime. It falls under torturing and needless suffering of the rabbit.

Commissioner Schulke – There is a section of the state's Fish and Game code that does allow it. Doesn't know where in the code that is outlined.

Out of order – motion by Commissioner Franklin to hear item. Seconded by Commissioner Hamilton.

Public Comment:

Rex Reginald – Agrees that this is evil pastime that tortures animals and promotes the killing of animals by dogs. Supports Schulke's recommendation.

Margery Cohen – Misinformation being presented. Hunting is protected by the California constitution and coursing is considered legal hunting under the Fish and Game code. Sight hounds are natural hunters. There is no open field coursing in SF. This bill would put her in same category as thieves. Upset by media's portrayal of this activity.

Gary Ellis – The rabbits are jack rabbits and are wild. For most parts rabbits are not taken. Many breeds compete in open field coursing. Purpose of the coursing is not to kill but it is the natural instinct of the dogs to kill and the killing usually happens really quickly. Objective of this sport is to compete one's dog against other dogs to see who has the best dog and to excite the dog. Nothing excites the dogs as much or is as competitive as using live game. Goal is to see the dogs run, see the dog do everything it can do, and to satisfy the dog. Luring coursing (using plastic bag) is very predictable and the dogs lose interest. This is hunting and game is taken. If you are against hunting, you're against hunting. Carcasses are eaten by the dogs, people, or other predators. This doesn't take place in SF, as lots of space is needed.

L-Danyielle Yacobucci – Does not like hunting. We do not need to breed dogs to hunt anymore. It terrorizes the rabbits. No guarantee of quick death. Jack rabbits are deserving of protection just as any other animal or human is. Carcasses may not be wasted but a life is. We wouldn't do this to people so she would hope that we wouldn't do it to an animal.

Susan Schroeder – A blood sport is a captured animal who has no chance, such as an animal in an arena. This is not a blood sport, it is hunting.

Ron Cole – Theodore Roosevelt participated in this sport. He has friends who do tracking and their dogs would go after rabbits. This would add new category of penal justice for something that has been around for years as a sport using animal against animal. More of a sport than using guns. This bill has a lot of unintended consequences. Wants fewer laws, not more laws. Board of Supervisors has more important things to deal with.

Commission Discussion

Bill Herndon – Is this issue before the commission because of a dislike of hunting or is it because it is hunting with dogs? Does not like cruelty. Some of

the feelings here are that it is cruel to do this. Argument brought to us by Gary Ellis is that it isn't any more cruel than to shoot a deer and have the deer run for a few minutes and then drop dead.

Richard Schulke – Understand people's want to hunt and that some of the hunting license fees go toward conservation. However doesn't see this as the kind thing that should be allowed in California anymore. A few years ago the UK has banned things like this, fox hunting and coursing with rabbits. Would like to see us follow that example – it is a cruel way to hunt. If you want to train your dogs, use a lure or a course. It may not have the same intensity that a live rabbit provides but this is very cruel and unnecessary. It likely is not something we see in SF but would like to see our board lend its support for this bill. A lot of groups oppose this law but it would end an intensely cruel sport. He would like to ask the board to pass a resolution supporting this bill.

Bill Herndon – Does not think this is something we should be doing because we are an advisory board to the Board of Supervisors for things that happen in SF. This will have no impact on the people or animals in SF.

JR Yeager – Agrees with Herndon and doesn't know why this is on the agenda. It's brought forth based on viewing a 60 minute video. More research needs to be done for us to comment on this further and it is not an SF issue.

Bill Hamilton – If this bill did get passed it would be challenged in court. Hunting groups have powerful lobbies.

Mara Weis – Agrees that this does not appear to be an SF issue.

Richard Schulke – This doesn't have much commission support. Does think this is in the purview of this commission, to make animal recommendations to the board, so withdrawing the item.

- b. Discussion regarding the development and web posting of a referral list of resources for the c

Motion by Sherri Franklin to discuss item, seconded by Bill Hamilton

Commissioner Discussion:

Commissioner Hamilton – Made changes since last month. It's grown beyond original intention; helping

Laurie Kennedy – Recommended reviewing SF Dog's website to see their formatting. Would like to see k

Bill Hamilton – Friends of Animal Care and Control has a lot of this info already which was inspiration.

Laurie Kennedy – Would like to cut down on the language and but still have enough language to be res.

Public Comment:

Mary Ann Buxton, Feral Cat Program Coordinator at the SF/SPCA – The SPCA's feral cat section needs

Commissioner Discussion:

Laurie Kennedy – Suggests tightening formatting and language, check with webmaster, and check-in w

JR Yeager – Doesn't think the feral cat reference should be included. It is on the SF/SPCA's website and

Laurie Kennedy – We need to decide how much info to include. The point is to let people know who have

Bill Hamilton – Could see someone new to the city coming to the commission saying "there are feral cats"

Richard Schulke – Understands JR's concerns about the language but would like to see this resource listed

Bill Hamilton – Will follow up and will edit on an on-going basis as needed once on website.

- c. Discuss making a recommendation that all cats and dogs taken into custody at Animal Care

Motion by Bill Hamilton to discuss item, seconded by Richard Schulke

Commissioner Discussion:

Sherri Franklin – In touch with Oakland SPCA and Oakland Animal Services. Oakland does not relinquish

Vicky Guldbeck – How is the appeals process working?

Sherri Franklin – More research needed.

Vicky Guldbeck – We need more research to be done at ACC to see just how many dogs and cats come in

Laurie Kennedy – This idea for this item came from past discussions about local overpopulation of cats

Vicky Guldbeck – A very small percentage do – 3% of cats are reclaimed. Cats are not usually repeat offenders

Richard Schulke – Thinks this kind of law might run into trouble because of property laws and animal control

Sherri Franklin – Our city could write legislation that would override that to demand that all animals be spayed

Richard Schulke – Supports this idea even though he worries about the legal issues. When discussing legislation,

Vicky Guldbeck – Whatever we decide we, as a city, have to be prepared to do it well. We need to be prepared

JR Yeager – Questioned Mr. Schulke, doesn't recall voting for mandatory S/N of all dogs.

Commission confirmed that we did vote for mandatory S/N of all dogs, not breed specific.

JR Yeager – We don't have an overpopulation problem for dogs. If people don't want to take their dogs to the

Vicky Guldbeck – will check ACC's statistics and will try to get some raw data about what we are doing

Laurie Kennedy – We need to think about our objectives of this legislation, what it would accomplish, what

Bill Herndon – Coming out of Mayor's Working Group, most of the dogs that come in stray and unaltered

Bill Hamilton – When previously researching mandatory S/N laws for cats, in most places it wasn't wor

Vicky Guldbech – Cats are free roaming in SF. When people come to our shelter for a cat, they leave alt

JR Yeager – Questioning the 3% reclaim rate for cats. The rate includes all cats coming into the shelter

Laurie Kennedy – Vicky will be writing reports to collect data that may be relevant to the future develop

Vicky Guldbech – We are learning something new everyday with regard to the pit bull legislation and le

Public Comment:

Ron Cole – Shouldn't be using Oakland as a comparative area. Dogs run loose in packs. Doesn't advoc

L-Danyielle Yacobucci – Agrees that this law wouldn't accomplish anything. Vicky's statistics will tell w

Margery Cohen – Instead of looking into mandatory S/N laws we need training court. The city, commis

Laurie Kennedy – All dogs adopted at the SF/SPCA are required to go through training and that is incl

Jane Greenwald – Thought our discussion was intelligent and good points raised. Got an email from so

Richard Fong – Mayor was hot under collar for the pit bull law. Saw beautiful Staffshire Terrier at ACC

Susan Schroeder – A more reasonable approach would make more sense for someone getting in a car a

Vicky Guldbech – Note, for the pit bull legislation, if there is a medical concern people need only have tl

Commissioner Discussion:

JR Yeager – We hear every meeting that there are laws that don't work so why waste time making them

Laurie Kennedy – I'd like to see how we can successfully address the cat overpopulation issue.

Bill Hamilton – These laws aren't working anywhere.

Vicky Guldbech – We have a handle on S/N for dogs because dogs are supposed to be confined, attach

Richard Schulke – There are some cities that have some type of "leash laws." Something like that woul

Vicky Guldbech – Although this opens a big can of worms, cats were required to be confined, wear a lic

JR Yeager – If there were to be anti-free roaming laws, any cat being found free roaming and not steriliz

Vicky Guldbech – That's the big can of worms. Can we really make it so that cats not be free roaming a

Sherri Franklin – what about a mandatory microchip law?

Vicky Guldbech – That would be a good start. Getting a better grip on the cats is a good start. If we try

Sherrie Franklin – How are feral cat's identified as being S/N

Mary Ann Buxton called up for questions – Feral cats have their ears tipped. Even if they were micro ch

Vicky Guldbech – Who would we microchip feral cats to anyway?

Laurie Kennedy – All animals who go through the adoption programs at ACC and the SPCA are micro c

Vicky Guldbech – cats being reclaimed are not the problem. It is not the cats coming into the shelter.

Laurie Kennedy – The goal is to reach more cats that are the ones procreating. That's what we need to t

Tape-recording ended...

8. Public Comment

9. Calendar Items

10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

11. Adjournment

Commissioner Schulke moved to adjourn meeting
Motion seconded by Commissioner Franklin.
Passed unanimously

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 pm

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 13, 2006
5:30 PM

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COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the March 9, 2006 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

- a. Upcoming commission vacancies – Appointment hearing with the Rules Committee on May 18th.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Hear about a proposal to create a system of openness and accountability regarding live animal research at UCSF. The goal of the “Bud” proposal submitted to UCSF is to create a community liaison position to work with UCSF to improve upon the welfare and care of their research animals.
Guest Speakers: Lee and Jake Sinclair
[Commissioners Franklin and Kennedy]
- b. Consider developing a recommendation for legislation that would provide pet-friendly landlords with a tax-break.
Guest Speaker: Mr. Rex Regiald
[Commissioner Schulke]
- c. Proposal to seek city funding for the production and mounting of permanent public signs deterring the abandonment of pet cats/kittens in areas where this is commonly done and directing pet owners/guardians to Animal Care and Control instead.
[Commissioner Hamilton]

9. Public Comment

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10. Calendar Items

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11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

.....

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Know Your Rights Under the Sunshine Ordinance: Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. This Ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on your rights under the Sunshine Ordinance (Chapter 67 of the San Francisco's Administrative Code) or to report a violation of the Ordinance, contact Donna Hall at the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force, City Hall, Room 409, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102-4683; Office (415) 554-7724; Fax (415) 554-7854; E-mail: Donna_Hall@ci.sf.ca.us

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[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information](#)

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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April 13, 2006

San Francisco Commission of
Animal Control & Welfare

Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 13, 2006

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Laurie Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager, William Hamilton, Richard Schulke
Absent with excuse: Commissioners Vicky Guldbeck

2. Public Comment

L-Danyielle Yacobucci - Referring to the web site resource list - add the statement under the section on ACC that animals can be euthanized at ACC.
Eric Mills - AB 2110 - Korsek Bill passed the Public Safety Committee.
Commission should read the article in Time magazine about global warming and how it is affecting wildlife. Spoke to Mayor Newsom about African Clawed Frog. There is not one full time Game Warden in CA.
Pam Earing - Maine has become the first state in the country to extend protection to animals under domestic violence laws. Restraint orders include women, children and animals. Would like to see San Francisco move on this.
Mary Ann Buxton - Referring to Feral/Homeless Cat section of web site resource list - delete SPCA CAT volunteer section. Keep the rest.

Out of Order

New Business

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- a. Consider developing a recommendation for legislation that would provide pet-friendly landlords v

Guest Speaker: Mr. Rex Reginald

Commissioner Kipnis moved to discuss the item. Seconded by Commissioner Franklin.

Commissioner Schulke introduced the item. It is difficult to find housing in the city if you have pets. People need to leave the city since they cannot find housing. What it needed is compensation for landlords who allow pets. Will make it easier for renters and it is a benefit to landlords. This is an idea that the city of San Francisco can pioneer. There has already been quite a bit of interest in this initiative.

Commissioner Hamilton – If city tax revenue is cut back due to passage of pet-friendly tax breaks for landlords, su

Rex Reginald - Presented draft legislation which would provide landlords with

a tax break if they allow renters to have pets. Once the city decides to get behind the legislation. Will be willing to contact large corporations, such as SBC, to see if they would give discounts on certain utilities and services to landlords who make their whole building pet friendly. The legislation also would require responsible tenants. The legislation will help cut back on the number of animals euthanized and thereby cost of euthanasia. Has interviewed hundreds of San Francisco residents and the Mayor. All are receptive to the idea.

Commissioner Kennedy - A few issues need to be researched including, (1) financial impact to the city, (2) what type of pets are included; (3) would the pets need to be licensed.

Public Comment

Ron Cole - Add "well behaved" to the legislation; look at SPCA Open Door Policy; research at UC Berkeley; may want to try to get it through the Franchise Tax Board for the state.

Stan Manasy - Animal Fund - Great idea. Easy to calculate how much the city could lose, but more difficult to calculate how much the city would make on this. Multitude of things that would add to commerce, more than what the city would lose. Residents would be very receptive to the idea and set the tone for the rest of the country. Would not increase the amount of dog attacks.

_____ - There are families with children who can't afford to live here and we are now talking about giving the landlords a break for letting them rent to people with pets. We have a cash strapped city with not enough funds for its infrastructure. We should be ashamed of ourselves.

Laura Wegner - Took five months to find a place to live. Offered more money to the landlord to have them allow a pet. In addition to the tax credit, there may be other ways to generate funds from this.

Elliot Katz - Support the idea of a tax credit. Landlords are concerned about the insurance companies, due to previous dogs attacks. A tax break would balance out that concern. Sends a positive message.

Eric Mills - Pets should be changed to "companion animals". Families may have left town because the kids wanted pets but the family could not find a place to live.

Mary Ann Buxton - Supports the idea. Good opportunity to encourage landlords to require some guarantees, such as, pets must be spayed and neutered, dogs are licensed. Took 6 months to find a place with two dogs.

Sean Pritchard - San Francisco Apt Association - Asked about the structure of the tax break. Owners are concerned about disruptive dogs. Need criteria for pet behavior.

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Schulke - Great idea that needs more work. Rex needs to do more research and then come back to the Commission.

Commissioner Kennedy - Need criteria for animal's behavior, spay neuter, verification that the renter is the actual owner/guardian and that the pet is healthy and vaccinated, financial impact. Should work with landlord to see what they want.

Commissioner Franklin - City should provide a form to landlords that outlines the minimum requirements for allowing a pet; read studies that show renters with pets make better tenants.

Commissioner Kipnis - How does this affect the group of responsible guardians

who for some reasons or another do not want to follow the criteria/requirements? Would it make it more difficult for them to find a place to live?

Commissioner Herndon - Important to narrow down what animals we are taking about. See what already exists in the city with regard to pet friendly housing and how much more the initiative would generate.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the March 9, 2006 Meeting

Commissioner Hamilton moved to pass the minutes as amended

Motion seconded by Commissioner Franklin

Unanimous

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

There are three upcoming commission vacancies. Terms expire for Commissioners, Kipnis, Weiss, and Ken

5. New Business

b. Hear about a proposal to create a system of openness and accountability regarding live animal rese

Commissioner Kennedy introduced this item. She and Commissioner Franklin met with the Sinclairs to discuss the

Lee and Jake Sinclair - Asked for the Commission's support of a proposal to obtain a privately funded animal wel

Public Comment

Richard Fong – how much is this related to proposition 71. Already have a task force at Mission Bay – how does t

L-Danyielle Yacobucci – Supports this idea. Hope the Commission takes this on.

Eric Mills –Great idea. Amazed that the UC system is not open to the public, yet it is funded by state funds, our ta

Commission Discussion

Commission Weiss – Great idea. What is the Commission's role in selecting the candidates and is that our role?

Commissioner Kennedy – To play a role in reviewing candidates, we would have to ask the Board of Supervisor to

Commissioner Hamilton – The Charter that created UCSF basically creates a separate government; they are very p

Sinclair – It is a voluntary initiative. UCSF would have to agree with the plan. This plan would help UCSF with t

Taping stopped due to mechanical problems.

Commission agreed that this proposal does build on the Commission's 1994 UCSF proposal and agreed to endorse

c. Proposal to seek city funding for the production and mounting of permanent public signs deterring the

Commissioner Kennedy moved to discuss this item. Motion seconded by Commissioner Franklin.

Commissioner Hamilton introduced the item. Appears to be a lot of people dumping cats right near Evans and Ca

Public Comment

L-Danyielle Yacobucci – ACC should be in charge. SPCA also needs to be a part of this. Signs need to be positiv

Commission Discussion

Commissioner Franklin – people will still dump regardless of signs

Commissioner Weiss – signs should state that ACC has an adoption program

Commissioner Hamilton – people who live and/or work in the area may be the ones who are dumping the cats.

Commissioner Hamilton will do more research on this issues (e.g. cost) and bring it back to the Commission next 1

6. Public Comment - None

7. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

Commissioner Franklin will follow-up on the issue of animal protection in domestic violence situations, using the recently passed Maine law as a model.

Commissioner Hamilton will do more research on the signs and come back to the Commission with this item next month.

Commissioner Schulke will follow up with Rex Reginald regarding the proposed tax break legislation.

Commissioner Kennedy announced her new job as Humane Education Manger at the SPCA.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 7:15 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, May 11, 2006
5:30 PM

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Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon

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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy-Routhier

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the April 13, 2006 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

- a. Update regarding the efforts being made to develop legislation that would provide pet-friendly landlords with a tax-break.

[Commissioner Schulke]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Follow-up report by Commissioner Hamilton and discussion regarding a proposal to seek city funding for the production and mounting of permanent public signs deterring the abandonment of pet cats/kittens in areas where this is commonly done and directing pet owners/guardians to Animal Care and Control instead.
[Commissioner Hamilton]

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. A discussion to develop legislation that would include and protect animals in domestic violence cases.
[Commissioner Franklin]
- b. Discuss making additions to the commission's online list of animal resources/referrals. Consider including links for pet-friendly housing in San Francisco. Explore publicizing the list to increase awareness by the public and nonprofit agencies. www.sfgov.org/awcc
[Commissioner Hamilton]

9. Public Comment

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10. Calendar Items

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11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

May 11, 2006

San Francisco Commission of Animal Control & Welfare

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 11, 2006

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Laurie Routhier, Sherri Franklin, Joanne Kipnis, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager, William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Vicky Guldbeck, Bill Herndon

2. Public Comment - none

3. Approval of Draft minutes from April 13, 2006 meeting

Commissioner Schulke moved to pass the minutes as amended
Seconded by Commissioner Franklin
Unanimous.

4. Chair's Report and opening remarks

Commissioner Routhier announced Commissioner Kipnis was leaving the Commission and thanked her for her service. Commissioner Kipnis said it was a tough decision to make and hopes it will be temporary and may some day reapply to the Commission.

Public Comment

Richard Fond - Suggest the Commissioner Kipnis receive certificate of Highest Honor from Board of Supervisors.

5. Committee reports/Commissioner's reports

Regarding tax break legislation for landlords who allow renters with pets - sponsored by Commissioner Schulke:

Commissioner Routhier commented that she spoke with the City Treasurer about this topic and was informed that all property tax issues are addressed at the state level, indicating that there is not really a way this Commission could move forward with this item. It was suggested though that there may be other options/incentives for landlords (to allow pets) in terms of some type of rebate or incentive.

Commissioner Schulke reported that he spoke with Supervisor Sandoval. Was informed that Proposition 13 may require a state initiative to be able to create this type of legislation, and confirmed

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that it is unlikely that this Commission could proceed with a tax break proposal. Schulke thinks it is still important to try to free up more rental property somehow in San Francisco for people with animals.

Commissioner Schulke offered that the public was invited to contact him directly with any additional comments or suggestions.

Public Comment

Robert Young - Approve of legislation; suggests implementing rebate to get around Prop 13.

Eric Brooks - Feels this proposal is long overdue; The danger of the legislation is its becoming a profit source for landlords; some tenants may not be able to comply or afford the requirements. Suggests rebate approach.

Roslyn Lord - support leg. CA richest economy in the world must be a way for landlords to get benefits.

Ran Forman - city needs to attract top level talent with pets; might bring in more families to the city.

Pam Earings -Spoke about NY time article re: tax break - article stated San Francisco as least pet friendly city in terms of rentals

Sally Stevens - Referred to article in peer review journal that discusses of pet friendly rentals. Article stated that the vacancy rate for pet friendly listings is lower, pet friendly landlords spend half the time marketing their rentals, time to rent is 10 days less, and on average "damage" to apartments caused by pets is only \$39 more than non-pet apartments - the cost of which is always covered by the pet deposit. Feels this legislation is a win-win for everyone.

Rex Reginald - Thinks rebate is a great idea. It is important to get this done in whatever way we can - this idea could go nationwide. He will work on proposal that will get around Proposition 13 and will forward it to Commissioner Schulke. Any comments can be forwarded to Rex at radiantrandall@yahoo.com

Mary Ann Buxton - start with housing projects

Commission Discussion

Yeager - Supports the idea of making more housing available to pet owners. However it may run into more resistance if we use the term "rebate." The City may resist giving money for this, as opposed to other social issues the city is facing.

Hamilton - referred to NY Times article - Stated the title was "Nitpicking Nation" and clarified the article was more about roommates looking for roommates without pets, and not about landlord restrictions.

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation to Board of Supervisors

None

7. Old Business

Follow-up report by Commissioner Hamilton and discussion regarding a proposal to seek city funding for the production and mounting of permanent public signs deterring abandonment of pet cats/kittens in areas where this is commonly done and directing pet owners/guardians to Animal Care and Control instead.

Hamilton: Discussed issue with Department of Parking and Traffic and was told it would not be a problem and that the cost of such signs would be \$150 each. Was also told that the area where the signs are suggested to be places is under the jurisdiction of the Port of San Francisco. Called the Port - told that Port Property belongs to the State. State would probably approve the designs if the code being violated was added to them. Would also have to fill out an application for building permit if holes would need to be dug for poles to display the signs.

Was also informed that building permit and Port Commission could be by-passed if private owners of fences granted the City permission to post the signs on the fences.

Hamilton is willing to pursue this if fellow Commissioners support this proposal.

Commission Discussion

Schulke - Where will this funding come from? Also wonders if these signs can be posted in parks as well.

Yeager: Suggests that money might be better spent on a broader public education campaign that would reach

Public Comment:

Ron Cole – doesn't think this Commission has the authority to do this (put signs up) according to enabling

Mary Ann Buxton– feels signs can be educational but that animal abandonment happens all over the City -

Commission Discussion

Franklin– Concerned that signs may otherwise induce people to dump in these areas.

Yeager – Feels a sign offering reward for reporting dumping of animals might have a positive effect.

Schulke – Feels a reward program is a good idea and should be pursued.

8. New Business

8a. Discussion to develop legislation that would include and protect animals in domestic violence cases.

Sponsored by Commissioner Franklin

Moved to discuss: Hamilton

Seconded: Kipnis

Franklin: Referred to law passed my State of Maine. Has received many calls and e-mails on this. There is no actual mandate or legislation in San Francisco.

Currently in San Francisco we do have an agreement with/via three safe houses that Animal Control and Care takes victims' animals into custody and holds them until the victim(s) get resettled.

This legislation would give judges the ability to include pets on a restraining orders, authority to impose penalties if the order is violated, ensure that any victim of domestic violence including any animals will receive protect from the abuser.

Studies have shown (that there are) links between animal abuse and child abuse. Statistics also show that 1 in 4 abused victims will not leave because they fear for their pets' safety. Maine coalition to prevent domestic violence reported that children observed violence towards animals.

Feels that this is an issue that the Commission should tackle.

Commission Discussion

Yeager – Works with people in the area of Domestic Violence. Will put Franklin in touch with these people.

Weiss – asked for clarification of safe house agreement.

Guldbeck – explained the safe house agreement is that these particular animals are taken to ACC and logged.

Schulke – supports this idea and applauds ACC for their current role.

Hamilton – would feel this program could be even more successful if it were better known so that abuse victims are better protected.

Public Comment

Pam Earing – Has Paw Pact list and sent NYT article and brief letter to 29 people (legislators) highlighting animal abuse.

Virginia Handley – Maine is an excellent bill. We can introduce this in CA in January (2007) Will take a lot of time to get it passed.

Laurie Ritcher - works with victims of domestic abuse and is aware of the situations with animals being abused. Cited a few studies.

regarding connection between human and animal abuse. Also cited reasons that many victims stay with abuser is for fear for their animals' safety.

Commission Discussion

Kipnis – Suggests contacting the people in Maine who worked on getting the legislation regarding their sti

Franklin - will gather Maine legislation and more stats to formalize our legislation for Commission discussion.

Herndon - asked for clarification on companion animal language - does this legislation include horse/cow or are they considered livestock.

Franklin - believes Maine legislation is to protect *any* animal that is in danger of abuse.

8b. Discuss making additions to Commissions on-line list of animal resources and referrals to consider links for pet-friendly housing in San Francisco; explore publicizing the list in order to create awareness of the public and nonprofit agencies.

Brought forward by Commissioner Hamilton.

Motion to discuss: Franklin

Seconded: Routhier

Hamilton - would like to add resources for Pet Friendly Housing; suggest press release to announce this new resource list

Public Comment

Ron Cole - check out SPCA open door policy. Check out Berkeley study/research paper on pet owners who were required to sign a contract between tenant and landlord. Contract is very critical.

Sally Stevens - referred to CARP - Companion Animal Rental Program - brochure how to get housing and keep it, and a flyer for landlords as well.

Commission Discussion

Hamilton and Routhier - discussed canine good citizen's course/obedience test as being useful for obtaining housing.

Schulke - offered to use his list to publicize the referral list

9. Public Comment - items not included on the agenda

Virginia Handley - updated Commission on pending CA legislation AB 450 - requires emergency management system to take in account needs of pets and service animals in a disaster - would like to see this

on Commission agenda

AB 2110 - Hounding of rabbits - had a hearing yesterday and went into a "suspense" until it could be determined if the state can afford it

AB 2862 - Pet shops

A bill on Elephants also went into "suspense"

Cockfighting bill went into suspense

Anyone can subscribe to an e-mail alert: contact virginia@animlaswitchboard.org and she will add names to the list.

Ron Cole - Canine good citizen test - a very minimal test and only for on-leash dogs

10. Calendar Items

Agenda for the next meeting must post agenda 10 days prior to meeting because of officer elections. Agenda items are due by May 26.

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

Next Steps -

- Hamilton will work on signage on animal dumping and resources for web site
- Schulke will stay on top of pet Friendly legislation
- Franklin and Guldbeck will work on domestic violence legislation

Schulke/Kennedy - Motion to adjourn meeting, in honor of Kipnis' service on the Commission

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 7:07 p.m

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, June 8, 2006
5:30 PM

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Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Sherri Franklin, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Christine Garcia, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
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6/8/06

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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy-Routhier

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the May 11, 2006 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

- a. Welcome Christine Garcia to the Commission
- b. Discussion about the Commission's track record and future goals with regard to addressing the diversity of the animal issues subject to the Board of Supervisor's jurisdiction and significant to the community. The Commission's work focuses on the great variety of animals such as companion animals, wildlife, reptiles, birds, animals bred for human consumption, etc.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors

[Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Discuss recommending to the Board of Supervisors legislation be developed that would include and protect companion animals in domestic violence cases.
[Commissioner Franklin]

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- a. Commission officer elections:
 - Chairperson
 - Vice-Chair
 - Secretary

9. Public Comment

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11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

June 8, 2006

Call to Order: 5:38 p.m.

Roll Call: Present - Commissioners Sherri Franklin; Christine Garcia; Vicky Guldbeck; William Hamilton; William Herndon; Laurie Routhier-Kennedy; Richard Schulke; JR Yeager. Commissioner Mara Weiss, DVM arrived 6 p.m.

2. Public Comment

Rex Reginald - Is working on pet-friendly legislation in San Francisco; Supervisor Ma supports his efforts to get San Francisco declared a pet-friendly city; he encourages everyone to call all the supervisors to this end.

Robert Nunn - Supports a resolution for pet-friendly legislation.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the May 11, 2006 Meeting: Commissioner Yeager did not have time to do the minutes; approval was postponed until the July 13 meeting.

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

a. Commissioner Routhier-Kennedy formally welcomed new Commissioner Christine Garcia to the Commission and invited her to introduce herself, which she did.

b. Commissioner Schulke is attempting to negotiate with Supervisor Peskin's office to get a budget for the Commission that would allow a part-time city employee to record the minutes and other needs; Commission meetings may also some day be broadcast.

c. Although the Commission's work focuses on the great variety of animals in San Francisco, some members of the public raised an issue at the Board of Supervisors Rules Committee meeting that the Commission is not giving enough attention to nondomestic animals. However, of the 18 most recent major issues considered by the Commission, eight concerned nondomestic animals, including wildlife, animal experiments at UCSF, frogs, zoo animals, rabbit coursing, pigeons and Fish & Game Dept. issues.

Commissioner Franklin - The Commission deals with those issues that the public brings before it, and more people in the City have dogs and cats.

Commissioner Schulke - No representatives from the Rec & Park Dept. or the Public Health Dept. have attended Commission meetings for a long time, even

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though they could provide valuable feedback regarding nondomestic animal issues.

Public Comment:

Pam Hemphill - Raised concerns about the status of wildlife in San Francisco.

5. Old Business

Regarding legislation to include and protect companion animals in domestic violence cases, Commissioner Franklin requested that the item be tabled for one or two months so that she can first meet with Carl Friedman and the City Attorney.

It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to table this item.

6. New Business

Commission officer elections:

a. Chair - Commissioner Routhier-Kennedy nominated Commissioner Schulke, who commented that offices should rotate annually. The Commission voted unanimously to elect Commissioner Schulke chair.

b. Vice Chair - Commissioner Routhier-Kennedy nominated Commissioner Franklin (seconded by Commissioner Yeager); Commissioner Schulke nominated Commissioner Hamilton (seconded by Commissioner Garcia). Commissioner Yeager protested the nomination of Commissioner Hamilton, citing his association with the Friends of San Francisco Animal Care and Control as a conflict of interest. Commissioner Schulke pointed out the many contributions of Commissioner Hamilton to the Commission during his first year of service. Commissioner Herndon pointed out that the Board of Supervisors Rules Committee would not have appointed Commissioner Hamilton to the Commission in the first place if there had been a conflict of interest. Commissioners Franklin, Routhier-Kennedy, Yeager and Weiss voted for Commissioner Franklin; Commissioners Garcia, Hamilton and Schulke voted for Commissioner Hamilton, thus electing Commissioner Franklin Vice Chair.

c. Secretary - Commissioner Hamilton nominated Commissioner Garcia (seconded by Commissioner Routhier-Kennedy). Commissioner Routhier-Kennedy explained the role of the Secretary as summarizing the minutes but not recording them verbatim. Commissioner Yeager offered to help Commissioner Garcia if elected. Commissioner Garcia said she would be delighted to serve as Secretary. The Commission voted unanimously to elect Commissioner Garcia Secretary.

Public Comment:

Rex Reginald - A description of who the Commissioners are needs to be made available to the public.

David Bopell - Explained the role of the Secretary for the Commission, according to Sunshine Ordinance 67.15-16, which is also described in the

Administrative Code and the Appendix to the Good Government Guide. Minutes recording requirements are not as formal for the Commission as for other City agencies. The Commission may "do whatever it wants," as long as there is "a record of the proceedings."

David Bopell - Former Animal Commissioner Frederick Hobson, also known as "Miss Kitty," died on June 5, 2006.

Commissioner Yeager - There appears to be a conflict in the timing of Commission officer elections, with enacting legislation saying they are on a calendar-year basis.

Commissioner Routhier-Kennedy - The Commission Bylaws say elections are to occur immediately after new appointments, so enacting legislation needs to be reconciled with this.

7. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

Commissioner Franklin - Commissioner Schulke will investigate further the status of a budget for the Commission.

Commissioner Schulke requested that Commissioners send proposed agenda items to him no later than one week before each meeting.

8. Adjournment - 6:25 p.m. in honor of Commissioner Frederick Hobson

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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July 13, 2006

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, July 13, 2006

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Sherri Franklin, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Christine Garcia, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon

MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place , Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074

WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Richard W. Schulke

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items

within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the June 8th, 2006 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

[Discussion Item]

a. Adding the licensing of professional dog walkers as an agenda item.

b. Discussion and review of meeting with Board President Peskin.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Franklin update on domestic violence and companion animal local law.

[Discussion Item]

7. Old Business:

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Commission Budget

b. Department of Health and Recreation and Park representatives attending Commission meetings.

c. Commission Elections to be held January 2007 meeting.

[Commissioner Franklin]

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Commissioner Kennedy-Routhier Commission Guidelines for media contact.

9. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

10. Calendar Items

- Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place during the next

meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

July 13, 2006

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

Minutes from July 13, 2006

I. Call to Order & Roll Call by Chair Richard Schulke

Present: Commissioners Richard Schulke, William Hamilton, Laurie Routhier-Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, Christine Garcia, and ACC Carl Friedman, Officer Denny (fill in commissioner)

Absent: Commissioner JR Yeager (Out of state for personal reasons) and Commissioner Mara Weiss, DVM (unable to appear)

II. Public Comment

Eric Mills, Action for Animals – Noted latest Earth Island Journal; Announced Park and Rec. Meeting on Wed., July 26th and Informed us that Vancouver is first City in Canada to ban not only rodeos, but also outlawed roping, tripping, busting, wrestling, electric shocking/prodding, use of whips, spurs, calf roping, etc.

III. Approval/Comments of Draft Minutes

Comr. Schulke – 4B: in place of “Ammiano,” correct with “Peskin”
 Comr. Franklin – 4C: corrects that she said she deals mostly with cats and dogs because there are more people here with cats and dogs
 Comr. Schulke requested if someone wants to move to accept the minutes,
 Comr. Franklin – moved, Comr. Kennedy – seconded, and minutes were approved by all (Comment: Great Job Comr. Hamilton!)

IV. Chairpersons Report and Opening Remarks

A. Discussion and review of meeting with Board President Peskin.

Comr. Schulke - Good to be back – Discussion with Arron Peskin resulted in small budget for commission and attendance of Rec. and Park and Health Dept. designees at the meetings

B. Adding the licensing of professional dog walkers as an agenda item.

B1. Comr. Schulke - Proposed municipal - licensing of dog walker services requiring things such as adequate insurance, safe transportation, licensing fee will be split between Park and Rec and ACC, and there will be misdemeanor charges for violations of this ordinance

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B2. Comr. Friedman – Comments about ventilations and restraints voluntary suggestions/guidelines that ACC already has (not requirements) and intends on participating in the drafting of such codification. Main issue = enforcement.

B3. Comr. Schulke – Agreed and would like to move the spirit of the law from voluntary to required, added that constituents have been complaining about a need for this ordinance, and notified commission that this will be discussed at the next meeting.

B4. Comr. Kennedy – Suggests collaborating with someone on the dog advisory committee

Motion

C1. Comr. Schulke – Raised subject to change order of next Agenda item to address New Business Item 8A

C2. Comr. Friedman – Stated City Attorney was hear to discuss 8A, but she has a limited schedule

C3. Comr. Schulke –States that there must be a Motion to move/change agenda item, Comr. Hamilton moves, Comr. Franklin second, and all agreed to address 8A out of order

V. New Business

A. Commissioner Kennedy-Routhier Commission Guidelines for media contact

A1. Comr. Kennedy described the subject of “guidelines for media contact” and wanted to discuss goals of commission and how to reach those goals. Concerned about public reputation. Suggested that a group decision should be arrived at. Comr. Franklin moved to hear the item, Comr. Schulke seconded and all approved.

A2. Comr. Hamilton supported the agenda item and described the public perception of assumed “spoke person”-ness, and later stated that more specificity with what this item entailed is needed

A3. Comr. Franklin notes that discussing this item is somewhat premature without knowing precisely what we are talking about

A4. Comr. Garcia supports free speech and suggests the remedy that the precursor/disclaimer to a Commissioner’s opinion to the media could merely be beginning an opinion with “this is my own opinion.”

A5. Comr. Kennedy believed also in free speech, and at same time wonders if we “should” use this right out of concern for the impact on other departments & future success of Commission to get work done, and later expressed our need to be smart with the media.

A6. Comr. Friedman described his utmost respect for this commission, expressed the importance of media, expressed his experience with the media creating frenzies, and that guidelines will not “muzzle.”

A7. Comr. Schulke does not support having any “guidelines” for commissioners due to the chilling effect on constitutional rights, such as his first amendment, questioned the legality of such restrictive guidelines, agreed with Comr. Garcia’s comment, expressed disagreement with “formal guidelines” restricting free speech, and approved of having commissioners say that they are speaking on their own behalf

A8. City Attorney noted that the chair person should be the person who brings official commissioner opinions forward to the public, and that it was within the commissioners constitutionally protected right to speak with the media and that clarifying that you are speaking on your own behalf is suggested, and any policy by this commission would be a consensus policy so long as it does not violate any persons free speech rights. Guidelines would not be enforceable, only something like a mission statement.

A9. Public Comment:

Ron Cole – thought that speaking to the media before a meeting does not lend to a “fair and impartial” hearing.

L-Danyielle Yacobucci – media needs to be done carefully and stating that you are speaking from your own person because it inflames the public.

Richard Fong suggested looking into ethical guidelines for commissioners.

Laura Massa - Supported guidelines. Said the commissioners choose to serve on the commissio

Comr. Schulke moved to have this agenda item moved to next meeting, Comr. Hamilton seconded and added that he would like to see a policy in writing to vote on, Comr. Friedman suggested having the City Attorney start drafting. All Commissioners approved having the item moved to the next meeting

VI. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Franklin update on domestic violence and companion animal local law.

Comr. Franklin spoke with numerous people and will be having another meeting at the end of July which she will report on next month. Additionally, Mark Leno's office has shown interest in this particular item.

VII. Old Business

A. Commission Budget

A1. Comr. Schulke discussed winning a budget for the commission to perhaps get a secretary. Comr. Friedman stated that this Commission now has a \$10,000 budget to be administered out of general services.

A2. Public Comment: L-Danyielle Yacobucci says its great and perhaps the secretarial position could be a “stepping stone” to being able to work with the commission

B. Department of Health and Recreation and Park representatives attending Commission meetings.

B1. Comr. Schulke updated that he spoke with Peskin about the issue and that they will be working on getting Health and Recreation and Park representatives attending Commission meetings

B2. Comr. Friedman supported their efforts and stated that their participation will be invaluable

B3. Comr. Hamilton asked if this Commission has a say in who they send; Comr.

Schulke said we could make suggestions

B4. Public Comment:

L-Danyielle Yacobucci says that the Natural Areas Plan (NAP) is not very friendly and input on who would be coming is important

Pam Hemphill stated that the NAP involves wildlife which comes under the purview of this commission and some discussion is needed

Eric Mills, Action for Animals – says that he's delighted that Park and Rec and people from the zoo may come, he is concerned about the frogs in golden gate park and congratulated us on the budget

C. Commission Elections to be held January 2007 meeting.

C1. Comr. Schulke distinguished terms such as "calendar year" and that the Board would have to change. Discussion ensued by Comr. Kennedy, Franklin, Friedman and Schulke to describe why this election time change makes sense. Comr. Hamilton believed it to be more fair.

C2. Public Comment: none

C3. Comr. Schulke moved to have elections again in January for officers, Comr. Hamilton seconded, and all approved.

VIII. Public Comment

L-Danyielle Yacobucci says that members of the public need to bring their wildlife issues to the commission, not the rules committee

Pam Hemphill commented re: the drafting of minutes

Ron Cole suggested that there should be an e-mail address at the bottom of the minutes for people to send their corrections to

IX. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Calendar Items

A. Comrs. Kennedy and Hamilton will work on the drafting of the media guidelines with the city attorney

B. Comr. Franklin re: e-mail to minutes

C. Comr. Franklin added Domestic Violence to the agenda

D. Comr. Garcia will discuss cubicle and mail status of Commission

X. Adjournment

Comr. Hamilton moved to close meeting, Comr. Franklin seconded and all approved. Comr. Schulke officially closed meeting.

If you have any questions/comments about the minutes, please e-mail christine@animalattorney.com.

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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August 10, 2006

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, August 10th, 2006

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Christine Garcia, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074

WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Richard W. Schulke

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the July 13, 2006 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

Status of Commission Representatives from Departments of Health and Recreation and Parks.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports**Commissioner Garcia;**

- a. Update on Office Space, Computer/Phone Amenities and mailing address.
- b. Request for Budget Approval to Print Commission Letterhead and envelopes.
- c. Introduction of proposal for new San Francisco Ordinance: "Neighborhood Watch" as Article 1, Section 3 of the Municipal Health Code.

[Discussion Item]

6. Old Business:

- b. Commission Media Contact Guidelines. Commissioner Routhier
- c. Proposed new Municipal Law for Domestic Violence companion animal requirements. Commissioner Franklin

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
 - a. Proposed new Municipal Code addition for the licensing of professional dog walkers. Commissioner Schulke
 - b. PRODOG presentation regarding proposed licensing of dog walkers.

8. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

9. Calendar Items

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

August 10, 2006

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

Minutes from August 10, 2006

I. Call to Order & Roll Call by Chair Richard Schulke

Present: Commissioners Richard Schulke, Mara Weiss, DVM, Laurie Routhier-Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, JR Yeager, William Hamilton, Christine Garcia, new Comr. Sato (welcome) and Capt. Goldbeck

Absent: Commissioner Capt. Herndon (Family matter)

II. Public Comment

None

III. Approval/Comments of Draft Minutes

Skipped approval because both Comrs. Yeager & Garcia (although they turned in the minutes) missed the Sunshine Ordinance time requirements. Both minutes from June and July are posted on the website pending approval.

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IV. Chairpersons Report and Opening Remarks

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A. Attendance of Rec. and Park and Health Dept. at Meetings

Has been working with Sup. Peskin re: Dept. of Health and Recreation and Parks Dept. requirement to have representatives at meeting. We're happy to introduce from Dept. of Health Mr. Kenneth Sato and appreciate his input.

V. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Garcia

A. Update on Pursuit of Office Space (mailing address), Computer and Phone Amenities

City Administrators Office is holding our mail. Ben Rosenfeld from the GSA office claims our office is "on his radar" on the top of his list.

B. Request for Commission Letterhead and Envelopes

Assuming that the spending of the commission's budget is pending voting approval of the commission, Comr. Garcia proposes using some money on letterhead and

accompanying envelops. Requested people to think about it.

C. "Neighborhood Watch" Proposal

C1. Mohammed Sulliman (a dog fighter who continues to fight dogs in SF) is an inspiration for this ordinance. A new law whereby The County of San Francisco confers a private right of action for private citizens to prosecute cases for animal welfare misconduct which occurs in the County of San Francisco. Thus, private attorneys would be authorized to enforce animal welfare misconduct statutes through the liaison of the San Francisco Animal Care and Control Department ("ACC").

C2. Comr. Schulke would like to read it and opens it to Commission comment. Would also like the City Atty present at next meeting for her opinion, and likes the idea.

C3. Comr. Franklin has seen these victimized animals, agrees that city would be able to do more if they had more resources and looks forward to reading it.

C4. Comr. Hamilton is impressed with the work on the proposal and hopes that it is an agenda item for next month. Also asked which laws were involved (i.e. local and state?) both Capt. Goldbeck and Comr. Garcia responded yes, both and where the codes may be found.

C5. Comr. Kennedy had question on application and fundamental workings of ordinance. Comr. Garcia responded with a comparison to how Environmental laws work, allowing others to prosecute.

C6. Capt. Goldbeck added that there are many private attorneys who want to help ACC but there is no mechanism in place right now for this. She really likes it. Suggests that it would go to DA's office first to prosecute prior to private attorney. Informs commission that they have a database of the animal cruelty cases so the ordinance should incorporate the procedure.

C7. Comr. Yeager clarifies for understanding that this would allow somebody who has witnessed such an event to prosecute. Comr. Garcia responded that people would then have the ability to do something and see it through after witnessing such abuse.

C8. Comr. Weiss asked if we needed a named plaintiff. Comr. Garcia responded that the two other jurisdiction (e.g. People of the State of California *via* Private Attorney Jane Doe)

C9. Public Comment: Richard Fong expresses a concern for balance. Will private attorneys also be able to step in and help the Public Defenders? Comr. Schulke stated that any private attorney may step in already to help defendants. Comr. Garcia says that this legislation brings balance to where an imbalance presently exists.

Comr. Schulke recommended this be put on next month's agenda. Capt. Goldbeck thought inviting somebody from the City Atty and/or DA's office would be good. Unanimous approval of Motion to move this to next month's meeting.

VI. Old Business

A. Media Guidelines

Commissioner Kennedy

Would like this item held over to next month. Unanimous approval of Motion to move this to next months meeting.

B. Safe Pet Program: Domestic Violence and Animal Companions

Commissioner Franklin

B1. Had meetings with City Attorney and Capt. Goldbeck and Friedman and would like to see if we could take it to the next step, The Board of Sups. Language: "To make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to formalize a safe pet program to ensure its longevity. To educate and set guidelines for first responders. Additionally, to endorse and lobby for statewide legislation, to extend companion animal protection in domestic violence cases." Side Note: The person working with Mark Leno was sick and couldn't be at the meeting.

B2. Comr. Schulke clarified that we are requesting the Board of Sups. to make this a state law case. Thinks that it's a wonderful idea.

B3. Comr. Hamilton would like to understand the difference between this proposal and the existing penal codes. Comr. Franklin and Kennedy clarified that it is distinguished by creating a protocol of how to provide care for the animals in this situation.

B4. Capt. Goldbeck explains that this will extend into Court proceedings in related domestic violence hearings so that a companion animal may be included as a protected family member in restraining order requests or custody dispute cases where domestic violence exists

B5. Comr. Yeager states how the current informal SF agreement to bring pets to safety would now formalized and asks if first responding officers would be required to follow this ordinance. Capt. Goldbeck says yes. With this new law, ACC would be legally entitled to go in and get the companion animal.

B6. Comr. Kennedy Thanked Comr. Franklin for this proposal. Comr. Yeager agreed. Comr. Garcia nodded in agreement.

B7. Public Comment: None

Unanimous approval of Motion to make this recommendation to the Board.

VII. Old Business

A. The licensing of professional dog walkers

Commissioner Schulke

A1. Comr. Schulke – Proposed municipal - licensing of dog walker services requiring things such as, no more than eight (8) dogs per walk, current dog license, a leash per dog, safe transportation (well ventilated), adequate insurance and/or bonding, all feces picked up and properly disposed of, licensing fee will be split between Park and Rec (for maintenance of dog runs) and misdemeanor/fine penalty. Side Note: NAPS (National Assoc. of Professional Pet Sitters) couldn't be there today.

A2. Nancy Stafford, co-director of Pro Dog, a professional dog walkers association. Their objective is to inform, mentor and advocate for their profession. Re: Dog License requirement - Pro Dog prefers not to police clients. Re: Insurance – concerned about cost and the definition of "professional dog walker." \$250 is reasonable but they would like to see the entire amount to ACC. (FYI) DPA=Dog

Play Area. Voiced concern about how to ensure that the fees did not go to the general fund.

A3. Comr. Kennedy asked how the climate (e.g. whether or not there is support) was from the dog walker community. Ms. Stafford explained that there is much support. She also gave number statistics about how SF is a dog friendly city. Supports this idea: asked about the value of a fee for this prof. Dog walking license and also about incentive.

A4. Comr. Hamilton asked how Ms. Stafford would define a professional dog walker. Ms. Stafford said that the term is broad, but it was somebody who relies on dog walking as his or her main source of income.

A5. Public Comment: Ron Cole would also like to see the definition of a professional dog walker (i.e. defendant on # of dogs or hours or proportion?). Mainly because if there is no definite term, then how will it be enforced.

Ms. Jane Doe (no name mentioned) said the licensing fee shocked her. Suggested a sliding scale because \$250 is a lot of money.

Joe Hague, professional dog walker, member of Pro Dog and negotiating rule making committee with GGNRA. He likes it, supports the sliding scale, and likes the professionalism attached to this. Asks that ACC inspect the vehicle that is used (i.e. rubber mat in back, screens, etc.) Says that it should go to each walker (not company). Comr. Kennedy asked if most prof. Dog walkers are insured and Mr. Hague said yes. He is insured through APDT (Assoc. of Pet Dog Trainers). Comr. Weiss asked about the coverage and Mr. Hague explained that it is very comprehensive. In response to Comr. Hamilton, Mr. Hague explains that some walkers come in from other cities to walk in the city and federal lands within SF.

Comr. Garcia departs to catch a plane to Washington DC for the national Animal Rights conference.

Richard Fong questions the enforcement and prosecution of this ordinance.

Aaron Brown, a professional dog walker, likes this. Concerned about the \$200 fee. He already pays for classes on dog behavior, car maintenance, insurance, etc. He wants to keep this profession, and it already costs quite a bit and would like to keep costs down.

Roselyn Lord (?) and is supportive of this, but the \$200 fee is too high and expresses discomfort about policing dog licenses from clients.

Jeff Hunt, professional dog walker: Has problem with limiting a persons' income if they can handle more than eight (8) dogs since there is a limited window to walk dogs. He suggests ten (10) as a limit. Asks if there are going to be unwavering specific guidelines for the vehicle.

A6. Comr. Kennedy supports this idea: asked about the value of a fee for this prof. Dog walking license and also about incentive. Comr. Yeager suggested a sticker.

A7. Comr. Hamilton asked about the impact on ACC for enforcement and citations and Capt. Goldbeck thinks they can come up with a reasonable processing plan.

A8. Comr. Sato clarified that this is on county lands, but not federal. Some discussion was made regarding the number of dogs with Capt. Goldbeck.

A9. Comr. Kennedy commented on dog numbers, poop pick up and numbers impacting the spread of robust excitement.

A10. Comr. Schulke looks forward to working with the community, ACC, NAPS and Pro Dog in working out agreeable language.

VIII. Public Comment

Philip Geary: Wanted to discuss the Natural Areas Program (NAP) and explains that NAP promotes the welfare of animals which is relevant to this commission.

L-Danyielle Yacobucci says that SFSPCA is against the Natural Areas Plan (NAP). She will send bullet points to anyone regarding this plan for interested people.

Nancy Stafford said that 1/3 of the City Parks will be designated areas under NAP, allowing dogs (but the dogs must be on leash).

IX. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Calendar Items

- A. Comr. Garcia's Neighborhood Watch proposal
- B. Comr. Schulke's desire to create more landlord/pet friendly environments
- C. Comr. Schulke's professional dog walking item
- D. Comr. Yeager's idea on the \$ reward system for people who lead to the arrest of animal abuse. Also, AB 150 support.

X. Special Honored Adjournment

Comr. Schulke moved to close meeting in honor of Sergeant Herndon who is not here because his uncle has passed away. Comr. Franklin and Hamilton seconded and the special motion was unanimously approved. Comr. Schulke officially closed meeting.

If you have any questions/comments about the minutes, please e-mail christine@animalattorney.com.

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

TEXT ONLY:



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September 14, 2006

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 14th, 2006

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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.....
Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Sherri Franklin, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Christine Garcia, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
.....

MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074

WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Richard W. Schulke

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the May, June, July, 2006 Meetings

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

Status of Commission Representatives from Departments of Recreation and Parks.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports**Commissioner Garcia;**

- a. Update on Office Space,
- b. Request for Budget Approval to Print Commission Letterhead and envelopes.
- c. Status of proposal for new San Francisco Ordinance: "Neighborhood Watch" as Article 1, Section 3 of the Municipal Health Code.
- d. Request for Endorsement from Commission of California AB 450 (Yee)
- e. **Commissioner Hamilton/report;** Review of Sunshine Law requirements for the proposal and discussion of agenda items.

[Discussion Item]

6. Old Business:

- a. Proposes recommendation to make available more pet friendly rental housing in San Francisco
- b. Commission Media Contact Guidelines. Commissioner Routhier
- c. Proposed recommendation to License Professional Dog Walkers in San Francisco

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

8. Public Comment

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

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[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information](#)

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

September 14, 2006

Minutes from September 14, 2006

5:36pm

I. Call to Order & Roll Call by Chair Richard Schulke

Present: Commissioners Richard Schulke, Mara Weiss, DVM, Laurie Routhier-Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, JR Yeager, William Hamilton, Christine Garcia, Kenneth Sato and Sgt. Herndon

Absent: Capt. Goldbeck (Family matter)

II. Public Comment

Pam Erring - Reminds us that in April she appeared discussing how Maine was the first state in the country extending protection for animals in domestic violence cases. She wanted to follow up with us on her progress regarding her work with Mark Leno's Office at the state level. She explained that things are moving at the state level as early as January 2007 and would like to work with the Commission on seeing what she can do at the local level.

Richard Fong discussed dog play areas beside septic tank areas and spoke with Dog Advisory Committee and others who were very open to changing this. He asked if money for professional dog licensing would also be available to prevent animals from being impacted by the septic tanks.

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III. Approval/Comments of Draft Minutes

Comr. Hamilton noted that in the May minutes, Richard Fong's name misspelling. Comr. Yeager made a date correction on the July minutes. Comr. Hamilton noted that in the August minutes, there are minor name misspellings; Comr. Hamilton is a Sergeant, not a Captain, and the times of the meetings would be nice to see. All minutes are approved.

IV. Chairpersons Report and Opening Remarks

A. Lack of Attendance of Rec. and Parks Meetings

Comr. Schulke expressed his disappointed about the continued nonappearance of the Recreation and Parks Dept. and he will be in touch with us about a press conference regarding this.

B. Commissioner is "Compassion in Action"

Comr. Schulke shared the very nice article on Comr. Yeager about his Compassion

in Action in a local paper.

V. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Garcia

A. Update on Ongoing Pursuit of Office Space for Commission

Comr. Garcia may have to resort to beginning "sit ins" in front of Ben Rosenfeld's office.

B. Request for Commission Letterhead and Envelopes

Comr. Routhier-Kennedy proposes using a nice logo that she will bring to the next meeting.

Comr. Hamilton and Schulke suggested getting a dollar amount to seek approval at the next meeting.

Comr. Garcia moved the item to next month to see the logo and bring the dollar estimate to the commission.

C. "Helping Hands for Animals" Ordinance Proposal

Comr. Garcia explained that she implemented all the suggestions from the August meeting into the latest draft (PDF) of the ordinance. (i.e. timetable of when a private attorney will step in and new name) Spoke with City Attorney and explained that they are thinking about doing this at the state level.

D. Request for Commission Endorsement on AB 450

Comr. Garcia explained that having the Commission support this state bill would perhaps be helpful

Comr. Hamilton shared that AB 450 requires the Governor's office of emergency services to approve the CARES program into the standardized emergency management system.

Comr. Kennedy shared the methodology that has been used in the past for endorsing state bills. That is, to write a letter to the Board of Sups and advice that we will endorse on such a date unless they hear back from them otherwise.

Comr. Weiss is not clear on this legislation.

Comr. Hamilton summarized AB 450- Currently the system is called SEMS (Standardized Emergency Management System) and the point of AB 450 is to incorporate CARES into SEMS. CARES has never been formally incorporated into SEMS.

Comr. Schulke adds that it basically forces municipalities to come up with a plan for animals.

Comr. Hamilton explains that some counties do have such plans, but there is lack of coordination between such counties and the state, and it's more to facilitate the flow of that information.

Public Comment: Bob O'Brien hopes that the Commission endorses this.

Comr. Schulke states that there is not much action we can take on this item due to technical sunshine problems with this.

Comr. Herndon thought more time to look at AB450 would be good.

Commissioner Hamilton

E. Review of Sunshine Law requirements for the proposal and discussion of agenda items.

Comr. Hamilton mentions updates on the amended sunshine ordinance and the commission's responsibility to hold to the sunshine ordinance and include agenda items with specificity.

No Public Comment.

Comr. Schulke comments regarding making the information available to members of the public.

VI. Old Business

A. Proposes recommendation to make available more pet friendly rental housing in San Francisco

Commissioner Schulke

Comr. Schulke introduces Reginald who will speak concerning the Pet Friendly Rental Housing. Reginald would like to see this introduced to the Board of Supervisors with the Commission's approval. Seconded passing this forward without the dollar amount.

The proposal allows landlords to charge people with pets about \$25-50 more than other tenants.

Comr. Weiss explains that should would not support moving this item to the Board. She explains that to pay more money merely because you have animals may become an extra aggravated economic burden on an already difficult cost of living in the bay area.

Comr. Franklin asked if the additional charge of (\$25-50) is added to the already elevated cost that is currently imposed on pet guardians.

Comr. Yeager asked if it would be imposed upon people who currently have pets.

Reginald said that this is the type of program to bring people together. However, the landlord, ultimately, is the person who is going to have to want to do it and we can't force them to allow animals to live in people's housing. He frames this suggestion as a way to save animals.

Comr. Garcia opposed this item because it codifies discrimination against people with animals by allowing landlords to charge them more, and not forcing landlords to stop discriminating.

Comr. Hamilton raised the issue of rent control and asked for clarification on the item.

Reginald says they wish to amend that portion of the rental code.

Comr. Herndon has a problem with the incentive that this law tries to provide to

landlords. He doesn't think that \$25-50 is not going to be enough to convince landlords to accept animals as tenants. Suggests sending the proposal up to see what the Board of Sups will do with it.

Comr. Routhier is hesitant to pass this today. She would like to see more information such as, some definitive research that shows that this proposal will in fact result in more animals being adopted from the shelter.

Comr. Hamilton asks for confirmation on the fact that landlords are still not required to allow animals to live with their guardians.

Reginald affirms that landlords would not be made to accept animals as residents and says he hopes that this rent increase would "stimulate the love in [landlords'] hearts for animals."

Comr. Franklin says that all over craigslist people are looking for places where they will allow animals into their home.

Reginald said that Carl Friedman said that the reason I have these dogs and cats here is because of landlords who are unfriendly.

Public Comment: Philip Geary is opposed to this. There are too many loopholes and thinks some sort of legislation that they cannot discriminate would be more fair.

Pam Earing is also opposed to this. This is just one more way to make it more difficult on residents of San Francisco. The way it stands now, it is economically too discriminatory.

Vivian S (last name?) is opposed to this because the amounts that are being suggested are too much. She thinks that this should not be decided tonight and we should keep working on it.

Comr. Hamilton would like to see a clearer concept that does not violate any rent control. Suggests passing this as written, but without a dollar amount.

Comr. Garcia opposes this. More money shouldn't have to come from the residents merely because they are a guardian.

Comr. Franklin sees the potential for abuse of this because people who have animals are already paying a lot more than other people who do not have animals. She does not think that \$25-50 will open up somebody's heart and compassion for animals.

Two in favor and four opposed it going up to the supervisors as written, but without a specific dollar amount. The motion failed.

B. Commission Media Contact Guidelines.

Commissioner Routhier

Passed out the Code of Ethics regarding media statements with her suggested amendment for proposed guidelines, such as speaking with Animal Care and Control and fellow commissioners prior to news releases.

Comr. Schulke said that we should consider these with the Rules and Regs of commissioners as a whole. 1st Amendment-wise he is not crazy about it, but would support it.

Comr. Hamilton thought that the Commission should analyze this separately even if we decide to add it to the rules and regs later. It would be beneficial for commissioners to receive all of this information when they first became commissioners.

Comr. Herndon thought it would be beneficial to know how enforceable this is and that it might be a good idea to be consistent with the other guidelines of all commissions.

Comr. Routhier answered that there is no enforcement. They are only suggested guidelines.

Comr. Yeager wanted some clarification on how this is distinguished from what the sunshine ordinance already covers.

Comr. Franklin suggested giving the public time to review this and understand what it is trying to convey.

No Public Comment.

Unanimously moved to the November meeting.

C. Proposed recommendation to License Professional Dog Walkers in San Francisco

Commissioner Schulke

Comr. Schulke thanked all the members at Pro Dog and NAP who really helped with this drafted new proposed municipal law. The proposal would require licensing of dog walker services requiring things such as, no more than eight (8) dogs per walk, many prof. dog walkers would need only have to encourage their customers to have current dog license, a leash per dog, safe transportation (well ventilated), adequate insurance and/or bonding, all feces picked up and properly disposed of, sliding licensing fee will be split between Park and Rec (for maintenance of dog runs) and misdemeanor/fine penalty. Perhaps a discount would be given to the dog walking professionals who get licensed. East Bay Regional already has this.

Comr. Routhier asked if Comr. Schulke checked with the ACC regarding the vehicles. Comr. Schulke: No.

Comr. Weiss asked if the company would be charged, or each individual employee under the company would. Comr. Schulke: Just the company.

Comr. Yeager shared that people have suggested to him that that was unfair. Comr. Schulke: That's why there is a sliding scale from \$50-200.

Comr. Franklin asked if there would be something on the vehicle to notify people of the driver's dog license. Comr. Schulke: Yes, a sticker.

Comr. Hamilton asked if the fee was annual. Comr. Schulke: Yes.

Comr. Routhier asked what the rates of East Bay Regional were. Comr. Schulke: \$25-200 sliding scale.

Comr. Hamilton noted that at the last meeting somebody mentioned that a good definition of a professional dog walker was somebody who made a majority of their income *via* dog walking and I thought that was a good suggestion for a definition.

Comr. Sato suggested leaving out the statement about encouraging people to license

their dog.

Comr. Routhier said that there is a great course found at www.dogtech.org to train professional dog walkers.

Much discussion follows about the number of dogs from all the commissioners which included comments about how well a person is trained, their experience and if they know the dogs.

Comr. Hamilton didn't think we should strike out the "encouragement of dog licensing" from the proposal.

Comr. Schulke suggests putting this off until November so that an ACC representative can be present to comment.

Unanimously approved to be passed to November.

VIII. Public Comment

[Not all public comment was captured because the tape ran out, so if you shared something at this meeting that is not recorded above, please e-mail me with your comments at the e-mail below]

IX. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Calendar Items

- A. Comr. Garcia will get quotes on the stationary
- B. Comr. Kennedy will bring the logo to the next meeting

X. Adjournment

7:37pm

If you have any questions/comments about the minutes, please e-mail christine@animalattorney.com.

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, October 12, 2006
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

.....
Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Sherri Franklin, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager, Kenneth Sato,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Christine Garcia, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
.....

12/06 MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Richard W. Schulke

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the September 14, 2006 Meeting

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

- Pet Pride Day – Animal Care and Control Fundraiser
Sunday, October 29, 2006
Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park
Registration: 11 a.m. - 12 noon
Events: 12 noon - 3 p.m.

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- Update regarding Rhesus lab monkeys from UCSF sent to rescue
- Governor Schwarzenegger signed the Antitethering Bill, SB 1578 (Lowenthal). This makes California the first state in the country to outlaw the stationary tethering (chaining) of dogs for a period exceeding three hours.

- Updating commissioner contact list

4. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

- a) Report regarding communications with the Director of ACC on whether informal animal welfare programs at ACC should be formally recognized and funded.
[Commissioner Hamilton]

5. Old Business:

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.
- a) Status of proposal for new San Francisco Ordinance: "Neighborhood Watch" as Article 1, Section 3 of the Municipal Health Code.
[Commissioner Garcia]
- b) Commission letterhead and use of commission's logo, including proper mailing address.
[Commissioner Garcia and Franklin]

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

8. Public Comment

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9. Calendar Items

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

.....

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[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information](#)

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

October 13, 2006

Minutes from October 13, 2006

5:40pm

I. Call to Order & Roll Call by Chair Richard Schulke

Present: Commissioners Sherri Franklin, William Hamilton, Christine Garcia, Sgt. Herndon and Capt. Goldbeck

Absent: Commissioner Richard Schulke (out of town), Mara Weiss (sister having baby), DVM, Laurie Routhier-Kennedy (previous engagement), Sherri Franklin, JR Yeager (stuck in traffic on other side of bridge)

II. Public Comment

13/06 Richard Fong discussed newspaper reportings on the Sars scare and the animals that are live in Chinatown for food consumption. He questioned what the commission is going to do about the respiratory problems that Sars may bring since he notices the amphibians, such as turtles, and birds poorly maintained in the Chinatown.

III. Approval/Comments of Draft Minutes

Moved to next month.

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IV. Chairpersons Report and Opening Remarks

A. Pet Pride Day is Coming Up on October 29, 2006

It's a fundraiser for animal care and control.

B. Two RhesusMonkeys

Female vet at UCSF managed to get two of the Rhesus monkeys out of USCF and into a sanctuary. Bob O'Brian knows more. There may also be a third Rhesus monkey going to a sanctuary.

C. Governor Schwarzenegger signed the Anti-Tethering Bill

State of California outlawed the tethering of an animal for more than 3 hours.
SB1578

V. Commissioners' Reports – Discussion Only Item (No Quorum)

Commissioner Hamilton

A. Report re: Communications with Director of ACC on whether a

formal Animal Welfare Program at ACC Should be Formally Recognized and Funded

Tabled until next month because a Quorum is preferred to discuss this item.

**VI. Old Business
Commissioner Garcia****A. "Helping Hands for Animals" new Ordinance**

Comr. Garcia is working with City Attorney Rebecca Katz and the District Attorneys (DA's) Office.

Comr. Hamilton asked if there would be a representative from the DA's or City Attorney's office at the next meeting and asked what the process would be like.

Comr. Garcia shared what she learned from City Atty Katz, who stated that the Commission needed to sign the resolution, then the attorney assigned to the ordinance would be in contact with me for drafting.

Comr. Franklin recommended sending this Draft of the resolution to the Commission so they may review it.

Comr. Garcia explained that Attachment 1 (PDF) to the previously handed out Ordinance is the same language of the resolution for the Commission to sign, except the Commission Chair is in place of the Bd. Of Sup. signature

Comr. Hamilton suggested adding a link to the Draft of the Helping Hands for Animals Ordinance.

Public Comment: Richard Fong asked a question about enforcement and citizen's arrest.

Comr. Garcia explained that the process would be the same regarding reporting incidents.

Dr. Ron Cole expressed his concern about deciphering legitimate concerns because of personal gripes.

Comr. Garcia explained that the standards of proof remains the same for these crimes. (i.e. A private attorney would still have to prove something beyond a reasonable doubt.)

Capt. Goldbeck shared her concern about the due process of the suspects. What would happen if the DA discharges the animal cruelty crime?

Comr. Garcia noted that more language to account for these nuances can be added (for example the initial ticket written on site, versus the actual open formal case charging the suspect with animal cruelty in Court)

Comr. Franklin and Capt. Goldbeck suggested meeting with the District Attorney to help with this language. Capt. Goldbeck suggested that the DA charge the crime and then a private attorney take them because the DA often doesn't have the manpower to take care of all the cases that comes before it.

Commissioner Franklin**B. Letterhead and Logo**

Brief discussion about logo, letterhead, envelopes, what the room number is and whether we

Comr. Hamilton asked when the letterhead would be used.

Comr. Franklin and Garcia explained that we could use the letterhead for legislation between

VII. Public Comment

None.

VIII. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Calendar Items

A. Comr. Hamilton's Agenda Item will be put on next month's calendar.

B. Comr. Garcia's Agenda Items will be put on next month's calendar.

IX. Non-Adjournment

Comr. Hamilton moved to adjourn the meeting. Comr. Garcia seconded. There was no Quorum, but Comr. Franklin allowed us to go home anyway.

6:05pm

If you have any questions/comments about the minutes, please e-mail
christine@animalattorney.com.

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

TEXT ONLY:



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November 9, 2006

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, November 9th, 2006

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

.....
Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Sherri Franklin, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager, Kenneth Sato,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Christine Garcia, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon
.....

MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074

WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Richard W. Schulke

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(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. **Public Comment**

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items with *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. **Approval of Draft Minutes from the September 14, 2006 Meeting**

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. **Chairperson's report and opening remarks**

- Off Leash Dogs at GGNRA and suspension of negotiated rule making talks.
- Commission Elections in January 2007

How lucky animals in San Francisco are after my recent travels.

4. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

[Discussion Item]

- a) Report regarding communications with the Director of ACC on whether informal animal welfare programs at ACC should be formally recognized and funded
[Commissioner Hamilton]

5. Old Business:

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the C then may vote on items.
 - a) Status of proposal for new San Francisco Ordinance: "Neighborhood Watch" as Article 1, Se
[Commissioner Garcia]
 - b) Commission letterhead and use of commission's logo, including proper mailing address.
[Commissioner Garcia and Franklin]
 - c) Proposes professional dog walker regulations in San Francisco
(Commissioner Schulke)

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. The Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.
- Various speakers on GGNRA and off leash dogs.

8. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items with *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

9. Calendar Items

- Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion of new calendar submissions will take place during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up by email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

.....
Disability Access: Room 408 is wheelchair accessible. The closest accessible BART Station is Civic Center. Accessible MUNI lines serving this location are: #42 Downtown Loop, the #71 Haight/Noriega, the F Line to Market stations at Van Ness and Market and at Civic Center. For more information about MUNI accessible services, call

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Know Your Rights Under the Sunshine Ordinance: Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions through commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City and County exist to conduct the people's business. All deliberations are conducted before the people and that City operations are open to the people's review. For more information on the Sunshine Ordinance (Chapter 67 of the San Francisco's Administrative Code) or to report a violation of the Ordinance, contact the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force, City Hall, Room 409, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102-4400. Phone: (415) 554-7854; E-mail: Donna_Hall@ci.sf.ca.us

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[Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information](#)

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

November 9, 2006

Minutes from November 9, 2006
5:35pm

I. Call to Order & Roll Call by Chair Richard Schulke

Present: Commissioners Richard Schulke, Sherri Franklin, Mara Weiss, DVM, JR Yeager, Kenneth Sato, William Hamilton, Christine Garcia, Sgt. Herndon, Capt. Vicky Guldbeck, and Laurie Routhier-Kennedy

II. Public Comment

Pam Erring Update: Meeting on Domestic Violence resulted in idea sharing of new protocol, coming together to share information and attend useful conferences. Would like to work on community education to let people know what is available to them.

III. Approval/Comments of Draft Minutes

Approved: With Comr. Hamilton's corrections of Pet Pride Day being an awareness event and Capt. Guldbeck's name.

IV. Chairpersons Report and Opening Remarks

A. Reminder of Jurisdiction re: GGNRA animal issues

GGNRA is now giving tickets for off-leash dogs.

B. Reminder of Elections Coming up in January

We will not be having a meeting in December.

C. Chairperson's Holiday Vacation

Wanted to applaud San Francisco for having an excellent Animal Shelter and Animal Welfare programs.

V. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Hamilton

A. Report re: Communications with Director of ACC on whether a formal Animal Welfare Program at ACC Should be Formally Recognized and Funded

Read an exchange of e-mails between Hamilton and Carl Friedman. Comr. Hamilton clarified that not every program will be codified, just a select few. (i.e. Give A Dog A Bone, Wildlife Program in Marin or SF Rescued Orphan Mammal Program) Comr. Hamilton hopes to get these programs permanently funded.

Capt. Guldbeck explains that Save Pets Program is enhancing an existing law. Comr.

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Comr. Yeagar wants to learn more about the current status of Give A Dog A Bone.

Comr. Franklin thinks it's a great idea because it elevates animal welfare laws for everybody to see.

Comr. Hamilton explains that the city takes care of abandoned animals whose ownership status is in question for one reason or another.

Comr. Weiss wonders if we will move forward even if Carl Friedman's position is questionable.

Comr. Garcia supports the idea because of the national implications of SF codifying that the quality of life for animals is important.

Sgt. Herndon suggests a sunset provision so that there is a time-limit on the funding for starters.

VI. Old Business

Commissioner Garcia

A. "Helping Hands for Animals" new Ordinance

Comr. Garcia is working with City Attorney Rebecca Katz and Rebecca Prozan from the District Attorneys (DA's) Office. She explains the process of how the Helping Hands Resolution will go up to the Board of Supervisors and answers some previous questions regarding. Because of discussions with the District Attorney's Office, more amendments have been made to the Ordinance Proposal.

Comr. Hamilton had questions about "legality" of taking over the case from DA's office.

Capt. Guldbeck explains that presently the DA's office can assign the case to anybody.

Public Comment: Dr. Ron Cole expressed his concern about deciphering legitimate concerns from personal gripes.

Bob O'Brian wanted to know what percentage of cases were downgraded.
Richard Fong wanted to know if this would occur in any type of community court.

Sgt. Herndon wanted to know if he could hire a private attorney to take the case.
Yes.

Comr. Hamilton asks if a private attorney could prosecute again after the DA rejects the item. No, if the DA settled with a plea bargain,

Commissioner Franklin

B. Letterhead and Logo

Brief discussion about logo, letterhead, envelopes, what the room number is and whether we should be adding a website to the letterhead.

Public Comment: Dr. Ronald Cole thinks we should make sure that the official name is correct (i.e. is the County included?).

Commissioner Schulke
C. Proposes Professional Dog Walker Regulations in San Francisco

Comr. Schulke read the new professional dog walker's license requirements.

Capt. Guldbeck would like "regular" defined and voices a concern for #6, "encouraging" people to have a licensed dog.

Comr. Routhier notes that a class may cost only \$20 and then a person would have the fee waived for the year. Plans on speaking with people regarding this matter.

Comr. Yeagar wants to discuss the number of dogs.

Comr. Hamilton suggested participation with Rec & Park.

Public Comment: Dr. Ron Cole mentioned "Proof of Rabies" as being more important than a proof of license so he thinks it should be included Pam Erring suggested having ACC enforce this instead of Park and Rec.

1 Unnamed Female Dog Walker thought this was a good idea, but would also like the word "comfortable" defined and suggested it being a "fix-it" ticket.

2 Unnamed Female in concerned about Rec and Park going after unlicensed dog walkers as a source of revenue and recommends ACC enforcing this

Comr. Weiss responds that proof of rabbies vaccinations is not that necessary for this licensing policy because the same information can be found out by calling the veterinarian and some dogs cannot receive the vaccination so it opens up a different issue

Commissioner Schulke
D. GGNRA ticketing off-leash dogs
Briefly outlined the concerned phone calls that he has received about people who have been ticketed for having off-leash dogs.

Unnamed Female #1: Spoke regarding a resolution that is needed here. Included Judge Ulsup's opinion.

Numerous people spoke after this unnamed speaker. Each speaker stated that dogs should be allowed off-leash in the areas that are said to be seasonal Snowy Plover egg laying habitat. There was no speaker present in opposition to the invited speakers.

Commissioners asked questions about the Snowy Plover and clarification on what the public wanted. It was decided that this topic should be announced for all opinions to be invited and heard in February 2007.

VII. Public Comment
None.

VIII. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Calendar Items

A. Comr. Hamilton's Agenda Item will be put on next month's calendar.

B. Comr. Garcia's Agenda Items will be put on next month's calendar.

IX. Adjournment

8:28pm

If you have any questions/comments about the minutes, please e-mail christine@animalattorney.com.

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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January 11, 2007

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, January 11, 2007

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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.....
Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Sherri Franklin, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Christine Garcia, Vicky Guldbech, William Herndon
.....

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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074

WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Richard W. Schulke

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the November, 2006 Meetings

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

Commission Elections, Dog Walker legislation and lack of Recreation and Parks Representative.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports**Commissioner Garcia;**

- a. Update on Office Space,
- b. Official Commission Letterhead
- c. COMMISSIONER YEAGER/ Discussion about inviting guest speakers for Commission Hearings.

[Discussion Item]

6. Old Business:

- a. Proposes recommendation to make available more pet friendly rental housing in San Francisco. Hamilton
- b. Proposed recommendation to Liscense Professional Dog Walkers in San Francisco. Schulke
- c. Proposal to ensure the ongoing programs of two established animal welfare programs, Give a Dog a Bone and the San Francisco Rescued Orphan Mammal Program, by recommending to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors that they approve earmarks of a portion of the ACC annual budget for these programs. Hamilton.
- d. Prosecution of animal crimes by private attorneys in conjunction with the District Attorneys Office. Garcia

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public

- Comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

a. Elections of Commission Officers. Schulke

b. Report of budget to date – discussion on how funds are allocated, how it is accessed,

and how it will be reported in the future. Yeager

c. Status of getting someone other than Commissioner to take and prepare minutes. Yeager

8. Public Comment

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9. Calendar Items

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

.....

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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January 11, 2007

Minutes from January 11, 2007

5:35pm

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I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Richard Schulke, Mara Weiss, DVM, Laurie Routhier-Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, JR Yeager, Sherri Franklin, William Hamilton, Christine Garcia, Sgt. Herndon and Carl Friedman

Absent: Kenneth Sato and Park & Rec. Dept. representative

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Approval of Draft Minutes from the November, 2006 Meetings

Moved to next month when a hard copy of the minutes is brought before the public as opposed to the web copy available on-line.

IV. Chairperson Richard Schulke's Report and Opening Remarks

A. Commission Elections

Informed the public that the Commission has changed the election date to be in January each year instead of the first month that appointments are made. This month we will be electing officers of the commission.

B. Dog Walker Legislation

Much progress has been made on this new legislation and will be discussed more this month.

C. Lack of Recreation and Parks Representative.

This is an ongoing issue on the Animal Control and Welfare Commission and new steps will have to be taken in order to get the Park and REc. Dept. to participate.

V. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

A. Official Commission Letterhead/Commissioner Routhier-Kennedy

Comr. Kennedy discussed the new stationary for the commission and specifics of the stationary. She mentioned having a new e-mail address and need to designate somebody to check the e-mail.

Comr. Hamilton asked about limitations or rules using the stationary.

Comr. Schulke said that pursuant to the general commission rules, the use must be related to official commission business

Comr. Garcia added that room number 362 is the office number for the commission for their mail to be added to the letterhead.

B. Discussion about inviting guest speakers for Commission Hearings/Commissioner Yeager

Comr. Yeager discussed the item on the agenda last month regarding off leash dogs on the GGNRA land (not content, but presentation). Noted that, as one unfamiliar with the topic, he felt blind-sighted by the lack of the framing of the issue by the invited speakers. One-sided presentations are unfair for the education of the commission. An open and fair forum here is necessary for the integrity of this commission.

Comr. Hamilton asked if there are any written rules regarding invited speakers, or if it was a gentlemen's agreement to invite opposing sides of an issue.

Comr. Schulke responded that it was a gentlemen's agreement and apologized about November's meeting for not giving more of a heads up. He said he invited the GGNRA and they said they were not going to come because they did not believe that SF had any jurisdiction which is what they have said in the past. He mentioned that he will make efforts to reach out to the other side for next month to make it more balanced. The rule is that if you want to have speakers come, you just contact the chair and say you would like to have speakers. People are not turned down, at least by Comr. Schulke.

Comr. Franklin asked for confirmation of whether or not it was listed action item. It was not an action item.

Comr. Yeager added that there was no motion to allow the discussion.

Public Comment:

Phillip Gary mentioned that he had similar feelings to

JR. He believed that the way the presentations were made in November did not seem appropriate and had the appearance of bias to him. He stated that the 5-10 minute allotment was going on to 45 minutes. He wanted to speak, but the time that was given to invited speakers consumed the majority of the time. He reminded the commissioners that this is the "Animal" Control and Welfare Commission and not the "Dog" Welfare Commission. Mr. Gary had to do research himself on the Snowy Plover and felt his research was more informative of the issue than what was presented in November. He believes that there does not need to be "sides" in this issue and that there is room for everybody (the area at issue is just a small part of the GGNRA anyway).

Sally Stevens stated that she was invited to speak and agreed that other people spoke at length, but raised a very important issue. She said that she would be concerned if the commission made it too restrictive for people to come and speak in future times.

Commission Additions:

Comr. Schullke reiterated his apologies and that next time, invitations for speakers will be sought from all sides.

Comr. Hamilton noted that the fact that Comr. Yeager raised this issue that will be memorialized in the minutes will be a good guide for the future.

Comr. Yeager clarified that in the future, it will be announced to the commissioners that only one-side will be presented and then the commissioners themselves can take it upon themselves to educate the public on the unavailable side of the issue.

Old Business:

A. Proposed Recommendation to make Available More Pet Friendly Rental Housing in San Francisco/Commissioner Hamilton

Comr. Hamilton read the specific language of the new ordinance for the board of supervisors to approve a pet friendly rent control waiver for land lords to charge a surcharge of not more than 5% of the rent. All current lease agreements allowing pets would not be effected by this ordinance. He addressed answers to all the outstanding questions/issues that people had for previous suggestions to this pet-friendly housing issue such as the amount of money (\$) appropriate to effectuate this change and the codification of animal discrimination. The alternative to this bill is that animals will be left in the

shelter without adoption and eventually euthanized due (in part) to this pet-friendly housing issue.

Guest Speaker Ted Gouleckson with the SF Tenants Union: They do not like this because they believe it will result in many rent increases and will not help the animals. He educated the Commission on the process of getting rent increases passed in SF. He suggested that the Commission should do something similar to what the Board of Supervisors passed mandating that "Landlords must accept family members into a housing situation." He noted that, in order to really help animals, the City should just mandate that the landlords must accept some reasonable amount of animal companions in a living unit (such as 1) or perhaps expanding the service dog definition. He stated that one problem that he foresees is that landlords are always allowed to revoke provisions (i.e. those that allow animals) and then reinstate the provision (after 30 days) with a rent increase. A second issue is where there is a current dubious animal situation where there is nothing written, but animals are allowed, and then many cases will go before the rent board involving alleged waiver of rights. He believes pets will be kicked out of apartments by this rent increase allowance due to these issues. He also states that the cost of the rent increase itself will dissuade people from adopting an animal because that could be the budget for caring for the animal. One option he has is increase the security deposit. The max is 3 mos. rent. Locally, SF could raise it to that maximum. The best thing we can do is treating it the same way that we treat additional occupants. We say "Landlords you cannot unreasonably withhold the right to have a pet."

Guest Speaker Deline Wolfe with the SF Rent Control Board: She said she is not giving an opinion one way or another, but will just educate on the how the board processes this suggestion. She is not so sure that the tenants are supportive of this item. Currently, there are no provisions on how the rent board now deals with rent increases for pets. If there is no provision in the rental agreement, this commission should make sure that no increases will apply where it currently is not prohibited in a rental agreement. There are no rent increases allowed for companion animals, so that should still be clear. She said that she has mediated rent increases as "additional services" and says that landlords would be protected if this pet-friendly rent increase was defined as an additional service. Another concern is that if we define all the types of animals then perhaps fish and birds (currently under the radar) may be subject to rent increases.

Comr. Franklin had a question about revoking pet-friendly terms of a lease. Ms. Wolfe stated that it was only for health and safety issues and did not think that pets fell under that rubric. That is a material change in the terms of the tenancy. Wolfe stated that she and Ted are not lawyers and professional advice should be sought for those questions.

Comr. Routhier-Kennedy asked if Wolfe thinks that the landlords have not been accepting animals primarily because they wanted more money. Ms. Wolfe explained that she is not sure and that it is a market issue.

Comr. Hamilton raised the waiver issue of whether or not landlords would try to raise rents when they "should have know" that the tenants had pets. Wolfe explained that to get to this answer it could be a costly legal battle, she does not know how many landlords would go to Court, and that the courts would eventually decide.

Comr. Garcia asked if the 3 month security deposit set by state law was sufficient to cure any damage done by an animal. Wolfe said that there was no amount of money that would cure damage and that it depends.

Peter Reichs, with the Small Property Owners of SF, mentioned that he thinks that this is fine, but that there needed to be more language like "landlords wishing to allow pets" so it does not confuse people to think that it is necessary for animals to be allowed in rental units.

Commission Additions:

Comr. Hamilton said that originally the rental increase was suggested at 2 ½% and the landlords disagreed with that because it was "way too low" and they were satisfied with 5%.

Carl Friedman wants this commission to think about details of this and sees no pets allowed in rental

units as a #1 reason about why people are dropped off at the shelter. He hopes that this concept stays high on this commissions' mind so that someday it will prevent the killing of animals.

Comr. Weiss says that a 5% increase would pose a substantial burden on her economically to afford having animal companions. She also mentioned including language for protecting the tenant for a month to month lease.

Comr. Yeager had questions about the revocation issue and impact on people currently living with animals.

Comr. Franklin thinks that that language regarding the status quo of living with animal is key. She stated that perhaps mandating that a certain percentage of their units being pet-friendly.

Sgt. Herndon says that it may encourage people to just bring in the animal and hope to get away with it. Also, he thinks that it has to be as much money as possible to make it economically beneficial for the landlord to make landlords accept animals into homes.

Comr. Garcia is philosophically torn with this issue of: 1) having to evoke compassion out of landlords by giving them an amount of money they will be happy with, and 2) wanting to just force the landlords to be compassionate and making it illegal to discriminate against animals in housing.

Public Comment:

Unnamed female says that it is important to perhaps say in the legislation that the ordinance is not retroactive.

Marla Mathe says that this is well intentioned, but thinks it's fatally flawed. She thinks that if this passes we will see fewer animals fostered and adopted. Money is an issue. She mentioned speciesism. She would be open to a modification in the security deposit. She is not convinced that money for landlords is not the issue. The issue is education.

Stan Manassie from Animal Fund in SF said that we should make San Francisco the first pet-friendly city. He raised the issue of insurance and said that the landlord could just add that to their insurance. This is a liability and insurance issue.

Tanya Aveculdemacha loves animals, is an animal guardian and is a vegan who does not wear or use animal products. As a tenant counselor at the Housing Rights Committee she counsels low-income tenants and that none of her clients would be able to afford the rent increases under this proposal. She is concerned about the language of this proposed ordinance and says that this is an extreme financial burden for many people. She suggests reconsidering local Tax credits for landlords.

Unnamed male who moved here from Boston who lives at 1234 ___ Avenue. He thinks that 25\$-50\$ rent increase is a great idea.

Dr. Renee Pitchens speaks against this proposal. When the relationship of "pet owners" was legally changed and recognized as "pet guardians" it demonstrated the perception on animals as family members and this proposal does not recognize this relationship. We should be working against prohibitions on pets. We need to educate landlords and work on SPCA on getting pets passports and perhaps pet resumes to make it easier for landlords to accept pets.

Susan Dire Reynolds, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of Marina Times and the North Side SF Newspapers, couldn't disagree more. She is also a landlord. Small children do far more damage than animals. She thinks that people should not have pets if they cannot afford a \$150 rental increase. She says the same about children.

Phillip Gary is against the surcharge. He has not heard anything that has convinced him that this rental increase will result in more pet adoptions. He thinks that an amount that the tenant will get back at the end will be fair.

Lauren Waters wanted to address landlord incentive. She says that this is a liability issue. Also, some landlords are bound by poor insurance policies that do not protect insureds that have certain breeds such as pit bulls and rottweiler mixes.

Sally Stevens likes the idea to focus on the pet passport and pet resumes. She also suggests that the city get a pool of pet friendly insurance companies to create a means for the landlords to look to regarding the liability issue.

Sean Pritchard, San Francisco Apartment Association, represents landlords. He says that if the land lord removes/revokes something then the tenant gets a rent decrease. Also, he says that the association likes this idea. He thinks it's a "win win" situation. The rent board is already overwhelmed with cases. Comr. Yeager asked if there was a way to survey the landlords to see if the landlords will accept animals because of this.

Elisa, dog guardian, says that a flat fee that goes into a separate account that would be refundable after leaving would be favorable. She thinks that this is an education issue.

Commissioner want to address all these concerns in the new draft of the pet friendly ordinance. Surveying landlords will be a great idea. This item is continued to next month.

B. Proposed recommendation to License Professional Dog Walkers in San Francisco/Commissioner Schulke

Comr. Schulke reviewed the suggested language of the Professional Dog Walkers ordinance line-by-line and answered and addressed numerous questions and issues with the help of the public and the commission. Numerous people spoke without announcing their name and many of the comments follow issues:

1) Definition of Professional Dog Walker - language? as main source of income, as a business... 2) Enforcement? - park police, discussion about how licenses aren't enforced as it is in SF 3) this should not be a misdemeanor because people who lose their beautician license just can't cut hair, but they are not sent to jail 4) there is still concern about the wording of "encouraging" dog walkers to tell their clients to license their dogs, etc.

All suggestions were considered and taken under advisement for the final draft of the professional dog walking permit.

Proposal to ensure the ongoing programs of two established animal welfare programs, Give a Dog a Bone and the San Francisco Rescued Orphan Mammal Program, by recommending to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors that they approve earmarks of a portion of the ACC annual budget for these programs/Commissioner Hamilton

Comr. Hamilton pulled this item from this month's meeting.

D. "Helping Hands for Animals" Proposed Ordinance Update/Commissioner Garcia

Comr. Garcia gave an update of her meeting with the District Attorney's Office and conversations that she had regarding the proposed Helping Hands for Animal Ordinance. The DA Office suggested a slightly different angle to help animals, by making it a policy that the City of SF makes it a priority to prosecute animals abuse cases and welcomes volunteer attorneys to assist in the implementation of this policy

DA Rebecca Prozan appeared from the District Attorneys Office and said that she is available to answer any questions if people would like to see her after the meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Elections of Commission Officers/Commissioner Schulke

Comr. Yeager spoke regarding how the elections held last year in April seemed to have been decided ahead of time and that he was not privy to any organized plans to vote for certain individuals. He added that he has not had any conversations with people this year either about prospective candidates. He nominated Comr. Schulke for Chair and Comr. Garcia for Vice-Chair (because he recalled the Commission encouraging Comr. Garcia to be Secretary because it was a promising stepping stone to Vice-Chair). Comr. Yeager was nominated as Secretary, and he was very interested in the position, but not enthusiastic about recording the minutes each month.

The Commission voted unanimously for Comr. Schulke as Chair, Comr. Garcia as Vice-Chair and Comr. Yeager as Secretary.

Comr. Garcia will continue to draft the minutes because it is not a burden.

B. Report of budget to date – discussion on how funds are allocated, how it is accessed, and how it will be reported in the future/Commissioner Yeager

This issue was raised at the same time as discussing Comr. Yeager's lack of enthusiasm to draft the minutes each month

C. Status of getting someone other than Commissioner to take and prepare minutes/Commissioner Yeager

The Commission discussed this item briefly, and Comr. Schulke informed the Commission and public that the issue was getting a secretary (from the pool of San Francisco employees only) who would attend our meeting at this time. The subject was to be raised again later for updates of any interested SF government employees.

VIII. Public Comment

None.

IX. Calendar Items

Next meeting is reserved for the Dogs off-leash in the GGNRA area issue.

X. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

Next meeting is reserved for the Dogs off-leash in the GGNRA area issue.

XI. Adjournment

8:40pm

If you have any questions/comments about the accuracy of the minutes, please e-mail christine@animalattorney.com.



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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

February 8, 2007

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, February 8th, 2007

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Sherri Franklin, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Christine Garcia, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon

Mailing Address:

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Commission Voicemail: (415) 554-6074

Website: www.sfgov.org/awcc

Commission Chairperson: Richard W. Schulke

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the November, 2006 Meetings

[Discussion/Action Item]

Chairperson's report and opening remarks

Welcome Recreation and Park Representative and remind all that different minds can disagree in a polite manner. Report on secretary and budget and e-mail address. Commendations to ACC for recent award.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Garcia;

[Discussion Item]

Old Business:

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

A. Should the Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the control of portions of GGNRA land revert back to the City and County of San Francisco for management by the City and County of San Francisco?

Invited Opening speakers:

Sierra Club

Ocean Beach Dog

Center for Biological Diversity

Golden Gate Audubon Chapter

S.P.C.A San Francisco

8. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

9. Calendar Items

- Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

.....

Disability Access: Room 408 is wheelchair accessible. The closest accessible BART Station is Civic Center, three blocks from City Hall. Accessible MUNI lines serving this location are: #42 Downtown Loop, the #71 Haight/Noriega, the F Line to Market and Van Ness, and the Metro stations at Van Ness and Market and at Civic Center. For more information about MUNI accessible services, call 923-6142.

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The following services are available upon request at least two working days prior to the meeting: American Sign Language interpreters, use of a reader during a meeting, or a sound enhancement system. Accessible seating for persons with disabilities can be made available. Following a meeting, meeting proceedings can be made available in alternative formats. For information or to make arrangements, contact Carla Vaughn at 252-2500 (voice) or 252-2550 (TDD).

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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February 8, 2007

Minutes from February 8, 2007

5:33pm

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I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Richard Schulke, Mara Weiss, DVM, Laurie Routhier-Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, JR Yeager, Sherri Franklin, William Hamilton, Christine Garcia, Sgt. William Herndon and Capt. Vicki Guldbeck, and Kenneth Sato

Absent: Park & Rec. Dept. Representative

II. Public Comment

Eric Mills Coordinator of Action for Animals informed us that there is a severe problem in Golden Gate Park with the overpopulation of the African Clawed Frogs. Dr. Sheryl Green from Stanford says that there may be over 10,000 at the park already. Currently, they are cannibalizing. He hopes this item will be on the agenda for next month.

III. Approval of Draft Minutes from the November 2006 and January 2007 Meetings

Both Approved Unanimously. With regard to the November minutes, Comr. Yeager mentioned the "Unnamed" Female designation in the minutes. Comr. Garcia said that (aside from the Commissioners) it is difficult to recognize voices and that if a speaker would like to have their names included, a name should be mentioned prior to each time a person speaks. No public comment regarding the minutes.

IV. Chairperson Richard Schulke's Report and Opening Remarks

No "Welcome" to the Recreation and Park Representative because they never showed up to be welcomed. Should a representative appear, they would be welcomed in person. There is only one action item on the agenda this month. The Chair requests cooperation and respectfulness towards one another during the meeting this evening because there are many people present who wish to speak.

Regarding an e-mail address for the commission, the Chair explained the situation with regard to a web and city-based e-mail, there are access issues, but there is also another problem with an off-site e-mail address (such as "yahoo.com") due to the Sunshine Ordinance record keeping regulations. However, we are working on this issue. Comr. Yeager and Franklin had questions regarding details such as access and use of this e-mail address.

V. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Franklin

Good news regarding the creation of a policy to extend protection to animals in domestic violence cases. State representatives Mark Leno and Sheila Kuel will be sponsoring this policy and raising it in the February session. Comr. Franklin will bring this proposal around to each supervisor to familiarize them with the new policy.

VI. New Business**[Discussion/Action Item]**

A. Should the Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the control of portions of GGNRA land revert back to the City and County of San Francisco for management by the City and County of San Francisco?

Chair Schulke introduced the item and explained that we have invited speakers. Comr. Routhier-Kennedy explained that she is recusing herself from participation with this item because she sits on the GGNRA committee. Comr. Yeager had a question about the agenda item itself (i.e. Is this Old Business because it was raised in November? Should there be a motion regarding whether we should discuss this first?). A motion was made and passed to allow the invited speakers to speak first on this issue.

Preliminary Objections:

Comrs. Hamilton and Yeager both made objections to the form and order of item, but mainly regarding the invited guest speakers and the order in which they were speaking first prior to commission discussion of the item.

Invited Opening Guest Speakers:

Chris Powell from GGNRA read a letter into the record. The letter informed the public and the commissioner on the GGNRA policy of working with the public. The letter included discussion of the Negotiating Rule-Making Committee ("NRMC") which was formed for the for the purpose of changing any policy different from the conventional rules governing all federal parks. Comr. Hamilton asked about the representatives from the city who attend the NRMC. Powell explained that there are more than just city representatives on the NRMC, but SF is not on the committee because they have declined to participate. Comr. Franklin shared similar concerns.

Martha Walters, Chair of Crissy Field Dog Group, does not support a reversion of the GGNRA back to the city of SF. She explains she wants to see how the NRMC will work out.

Mark Massarra, representative from the Sierra Club and public interest and environmental attorney does much work to protect coastal areas. He appeared and spoke in protection of the preservation of wild life lands in the GGNRA. He explained the rich wilderness area which is uniquely located in this SF population center. He encouraged people to look beyond their personal interests/self-gratification and compromise, similar to how fires on ocean beach are now allowed on certain areas in the spirit of balancing interests. Comr. Herndon asked about nesting snowy plovers. Not in a while. Massarra explained the success of the snowy plover in Santa Barbara because areas were protected from disturbance.

Ocean Beach Dog Unnamed Male Representative (did not say name) explained that he has brought items for the commission to read up at the stand where he is standing. He stated that the snowy plover is listed as "Threatened." He also stated that the credibility of the GGNRA is at issue because they choose money over environmental protection. He brought the code provisions for the reversion and stated that it is a small fee. He supports reversion of the SF GGNRA land to the city of SF.

Comr. Yeager asked about the fairness of having two speakers from one group and the time allotted to them.

Ocean Beach Dog representative Dr. Susan Valente (name? spoke fast) says that the GGNRA could have already codified the Pet Policy, but chose not to and are currently mismanaging the GGNRA. She explained that in order to participate in the committee, a private meeting stated that each member must agree that no dogs are allowed off leash. She supports reversion of the SF GGNRA land to the city of SF.

Comr. Yeager noted that the last speaker spoke for 14 minutes.

Unnamed Male from Golden Gate Audubon Chapter said he would like to read a letter from Elizabeth

Murdock. He read the letter into the record. Ms. Murdock explains that the government has maintained and protected the GGNRA lands well protecting wildlife and biological diversity. She believes that the GGNRA should continue to remain in the management of the GGNRA. Comr. Yeager asked about how many plovers were nesting. The speaker answered that Ocean Beach and Crissy field are the primary residence for this bird. The feed and rest here. The Snowy Plover appears at the end of July and leaves at the end of March or middle of April. Comr. Garcia asked about fencing. There is no protection at Ocean Beach and there is protection at Crissy Field.

Center for Biological Diversity speaker Brent Platter appeared, spoke and answered questions regarding the Snowy Plover. This is one of the most maligned species around because it shares a habitat that humans enjoy as well. Under the Coastal Act, the land is designated as Environmentally Sensitive areas. The Snowy Plover is a Threatened species privy to all the same protections of an endangered species. 35 years ago, when the Pet Policy was signed, we did not have an endangered species act. San Francisco has the #1 most dog off-leash areas than any other city in the nation. ASPCA, American Human Assoc, PETA, Dogs Deserve Better and other groups have joined in their protection of the Snowy Plover. He opposes a reversion of the GGNRA area to SF. Comr. Hamilton asked about Platter's article in the local paper and about terminology use. Platter explained that "dismantling" is an accurate description of this agenda item and that "imperiled," although not a legal term, is a word that encompasses threatened and endangered and stated that he had numerous biological textbooks to refer the commissioner to.

Representative Jean Donaldson spoke about dog aggression and dog parks relating to dogs off-leash as opposed to on-leash. She cited numerous other people who work with animals and encourage dogs to play off-leash. An exercised and watched off-leash dog is a happy dog. She addressed the issue of whether dogs off leash pose a threat to the community and they do not. Comr. Hamilton and Comr. Franklin had a question and comment about relevancy.

S.P.C.A. San Francisco representative Trisha Ickard expresses the SFSPCA's support of all animals. She encourages this commission to ask the Board of Supervisors to look into the NRMCC. Jan Q. Smith is the new SF SPCA president and encourages safe off-leash dog areas as "one of the few remaining areas where dogs can socialize freely." She says we cannot remain silent on this issue.

Sally Stevens from SF Dog spoke and said that the 1% of GGNRA lands is the one place where you can take dogs off leash and walk with your dog. Comr. Hamilton had a question regarding her statistics because he heard that 2.4 miles of SF GGNRA area is for dogs off leash and 2.1 miles of SF GGNRA area is protected. Stevens says the 1% includes other counties not in SF (San Mateo and Marin Counties). Steven says that over half of the SF land is already off-leash. She says the 2.4 area allowed for dogs off-leash also allows many humans as well.

Inaudible discussion among the commissioners and public followed regarding answers to these statistical questions. Chair allowed person to speak.

Unnamed Female from the public said .8 miles of the SF GGNRA lands are still being negotiated. The 2.2 have been taken away from off-leash areas for protection.

Commissioner Discussion:

Comr. Yeager said that he believed there were numerous violations that occurred throughout this meeting tonight regarding protocol. He wished to have clarification and specificity on what is being asked in this action item. Chair Schulke responded that the public came forward and requested that this issue be placed on the agenda.

Comr. Franklin stated that numerous people came to this commission because they believed that the Commission needed to address how things were being run with the GGNRA.

Comr. Hamilton stated concurred that there have been continued requests from the community to address this issue. He suggested compromise between the two sides and for people to come forward with suggestions. What will happen with the old GGNRA lands when the SF Park and Rec. manage the lands?

Comr. Garcia states that she is mainly interested in the public addressing two questions she has: 1) Why are the off-leash areas currently available to the public inadequate? and 2) Why is the possible protection of an animal not worth the minor inconvenience of putting a dog on-leash in certain areas?

Chair Schulke stated that he does not know where he stands on this issue but is not convinced that reversion is the answer.

Public Comment:

Unnamed Female #1 says that we should get the Board of Supervisors to take a look at the GGNRA management. She says the dog people will never be happy because they want everything.

Unnamed Female #2 says that she has given up using the parks altogether. She says dog owners are rude to her.

Mat Slavich (?) says that since they are concerned about the welfare of animals they should know that there are many other animals, including shore birds, on the beach as well that need protection. Humans as well as dogs are disturbing to this wildlife.

Bill Carl (?) is member of Cal. Native Plants Society and Sierra Club and does habitat restoration. He thinks that the environmentalists have lost sight of humanity, and reminds us that we are sending a very strong message to the government about bad-faith of the GGNRA.

Phillip Geary says this item is frivolous and polarizing. Says this commission should be in favor of all animals.

Elisa, professional dog walker and horse rider on Ocean Beach, says that there should be a joint effort from SF and GGNRA in managing this GGNRA land.

Jan Scott, long time resident of SF and Ocean Beach enthusiast says that she used to be a supporter of the GGNRA taking over and reminds the commission that it should be a recreational area. She says that the GGNRA has changed the rules and are not accountable.

Mike Yoshioka, a SF resident, discusses the advantages of having wildlife so close to his city. He is thankful to the national park service to provide this to us. We need to be delicate with this relationship.

Jeff Hoffman says he does not like having to appear to oppose this item since it is selfish to allow dogs off leash in all areas at the expense of wildlife.

Steven Gollub, Director of Ocean Beach Dog, does not like the portrayal of dogs as the root of all evil.

Unnamed Male #1 says that he is blissfully ignorant on these issues. He says that he would like to see some signs out there. He says to make the boundaries clear and post signs up.

Richard Swan, resident of SF, compliments Schulke on his even-handedness on this issue. We should work together to come to a resolution on this issue.

Barbara Beck enjoys the recreational area.

Unnamed Female #3 thinks that these polarizing meetings do not acknowledge other proactive approaches to problem solving. She encourages ecologically responsible positive actions as opposed to offensive reversion tactics. Can't we work together?

Unnamed Male #2 described the provisions of the pet policy.

Neil Basaiy (?) national parks non-profit advocacy group expresses his opposition to any reversion plan.

Betty Darenson is puzzled by this issue. Migratory birds also use ocean beach. She believes that educational signs need to be posted so that dog walkers understand why certain areas are on-leash/off-leash.

Lindsey Keaffover encourages this reversion idea to be sent over to the Board of Supervisors for review.

Charles Fister does research on shore birds and Alaskan wildlife and migratory science on birds. He lives near ocean beach. He says that the degree of disturbance is greater than most of the other

studies he has done. There needs to be vigorous enforcement of off-leash laws for the protection to actually work. The GGNRA has not really been "on the ball" at defining the issue. It is not enough.

Robin Bucklee speaks on behalf of himself and his family. He said he used to be in favor of the GGNRA taking over. However, he was told that he would be able to recreate the way he had always been able to recreate in the past.

Bruce Kimble (?) supports reversion because the federal government has not complied with the spirit of the transfer, the pet policy and the NRMC is not working.

Dr. Karen Wo is not advocating for reversion, however, if things don't work out with the committee then she will resort to it.

Rusty Holden, SF resident, says that the City should exercise their right of reversion. They should go through the procedure of saying that the rights have been violated.

Unnamed Male #3 says that the City is obligated to enforce the policies of the GGNRA.

Nancy Workhorm works with rec and park and SF SPCA and thinks the status quo is not working.

Brent Platter says that the GGNRA process should be allowed to continue because they are committed to finding places where dogs can go freely.

Unnamed Female #4 says that the NRMC has ignored the dog walkers time after time.

Nancy Stafford supports reversion and should in the very least look into that.

Commissioner Comments:

Comr. Hamilton asked if the voting is only limited to this reversion request.

Comr. Franklin agreed and wished to amend the item on the agenda so that we could vote on something different but that request was denied. She is disappointed that the City has not stepped up to the plate to get involved.

Chair Schulke is not convinced that reversion is the way to go.

Comr. Yeager does not think that this item should have been on the agenda, and agrees that reversion is a good idea either. He thinks that there were many good suggestions tonight. He also says that SF should be a welcome place for animals to land.

Comr. Hamilton asked if ACC gets several calls for GGNRA dogs off-leash issues? Capt. Guldbech said they get dogs at large calls, but they do not necessarily respond because of jurisdiction. Comr. Hamilton says that reversion is not the answer.

Comr. Weiss is sympathetic to all points of view and sees the bottom line of the frustration is the City not being involved. She asked if there could be modifications on the agenda items.

Comr. Franklin interjected the same opinion and is trying to figure out a motion to have the Board of Supervisors get involved with the Negotiating Rule Making Committee.

Chair Schulke said that we can make that a new item for another agenda, but that the Sunshine Ordinance requires that we not change the Action Item. Notice must be given. He believed it would be unfair to vote on something that is unnoticed.

Comr. Hamilton says that we are recommending that the GGNRA policy revert or not.

Comr. Routhier-Kennedy asked if this commission could send up a different recommendation.

Comr. Garcia thinks reversion is extreme. One reason is because of how Park and Rec. would deal with things and the negative impact that reversion may have on another animal.

Motion was made to vote on the reversion issue. Comr. Routhier-Kennedy recused herself, Comr. Franklin abstained, Comrs. Schulke, Weiss, Yeager, Hamilton and Garcia opposed a reversion to of the GGNRA land to SF.

VII. Public Comment

None.

VIII. Task Allotment

Chair Schulke will work on an e-mail and work on getting a Park and Rec. Representative to appear at the meeting.

IX. Calendar Items

Professional Dog Licenses for next month.

X. Adjournment

8:35pm



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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare >> Meeting Information

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

March 8, 2007

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 8th, 2007
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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.....

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COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Richard W. Schulke

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the November, 2006 Meetings [Discussion/Action Item]

4. **Chairperson's report and opening remarks;** Recreation and Parks designee problem, remarks on state proposed mandatory spay and neuter law and reminder of four Commissioners are up for reappointment in April. Land marking Wild Parrot flock as flying landmark.

- 5- **Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports**
Commissioner Garcia;

[Discussion Item]

6. Old Business:

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

A. Proposed permit requirement for professional dog walkers. Schulke

B. Proposal to recommend a pet-specific rent control waiver to encourage more pet friendly rental housing. Hamilton

C. Non-native species of African Clawed Frogs in Golden Gate Park. Schulke

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

8. Public Comment

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9. Calendar Items

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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March 8, 2007

DOCUMENTS DEPT.

Minutes from March 8, 2007

JUN 17 2008

5:35pm

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I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Richard Schulke, Mara Weiss, DVM, Laurie Routhier-Kennedy, Sherri Franklin, JR Yeager, William Hamilton, Christine Garcia, Sgt. William Herndon and Capt. Vicki Guldbeck, Kenneth Sato from the Health Dept. and Bob Palacio from Park & Rec. Dept.

Absent: JR Yeager

II. Public Comment

Eric Mills Coordinator of Action for Animals informed us that Bob Hattoi (spelling?) died on Sunday. He was very helpful on Environmental and Animal issues. He will be missed. The latest animal bills up for voting in California is being passed around.

III. Approval of Draft Minutes from February 2007 Meetings

Passed to next month.

IV. Chairperson Richard Schulke's Report and Opening Remarks

"Welcome" to the Recreation and Park Representative Bob Palacio. We appreciate him being here. Bob Palacio is happy to be joining us. Comments re: support of Spay Neuter bill for pit bulls. Thanks to Duffy and others for planting more trees.

V. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

A. Professional Dog Walkers

Chair Schulke discussed each and every element of the Professional Dog Walker proposed ordinance. Special Thanks to Comr. Kennedy who helped draft. Letter written by Brent Platter about eight (8) dogs being too much, is read into the record.

Comr. Kennedy said that punishable by misdemeanor is too harsh. Comr. Hamilton agreed. Comr. Guldbeck said that perhaps you can do three infractions, then misdemeanor.

Sgt. Herndon said that there is an issue as to the definition of it being a "person who walks dogs for

compensation” for probable cause/arrest purposes.

Comr. Hamilton explains that this is more of an “honor system” ordinance so that people have an idea of regulation standards in the industry.

Comr. Kennedy noted that the city attorney will review anything that we pass along to the Board of Supervisors.

Comr. Weiss, DVM added that in the first aid kit, also included should be a muzzle, a name of dogs vet and any medications if any for the dogs.

Comr. Schulke believes the fines are a little high, and he likes the idea of the escalating fees for tickets.

Comr. Palacio noted that the limit of dogs should coincide with the dog limit in Golden Gate Park, which is not currently eight (8).

Public Comment:

Robin Gibson made a comment about the number of dogs that has been chosen and disagrees with eight (8).

Elesa Baker disagrees with the industry regulations because it is limiting personal livelihood. Additionally, the number eight (8) is too small.

Richard Fong spoke about district 3 and wonders how is this going to be enforced?

Lisa Vittory asks if we can take this out of the hands of Rec. and Park. Other professional credentials should be considered as well.

Susan Epstein says they should have Quick Stop in the first aid kit. Suggests making sure that people already have a business license so that they can use forms currently in place. She thinks that six (6) is a responsible number

Alan Hopkins takes kids out bird watching and thinks that the parks are for people and not for dogs.

Luke Brown, dog walker in SF, requests \$500k insurance coverage, instead on \$1million. He says six (6) dogs is fine.

Nancy Stafford, from Pro Dog, thinks that the guidelines are reasonable and recommends the SPCA’s program on Dogs and Kids.

Joe Hauge, from Pro Dog, says that eight (8) dogs is great because the walker can take their own dog out with them.

Sally Stevens, from SF Dog, is concerned about the idea of a misdemeanor, and believes that \$1million insurance may be too high.

Eric Mills thanks the commission for taking this issue on.

Commissioner Comments:

Comr. Routhier asked about the cost of insurance and suggests a \$500k policy.

Comr. Garcia said the infraction should cost more than a parking ticket.

Much discussion among all the commissioners and public ensued about who will be enforcing this ordinance, where the money goes, and also other issues that we need rec and park to advice on for enforcement.

A vote was taken and all were in favor of tabling this issue until next month.

B. "Pet Friendly Housing"/Landlord Properties

Comr. Hamilton read the entire proposed ordinance into the record and reviewed the survey reports from the land lords.

Comr. Weiss discussed the rent increase hardship and opposed it for that reason.

Comr. Garcia says the impediment of pet friendly housing is the landlord, not the law. She said she does not want to support this legislation because there is no guarantee that landlords will allow animals in their apartment complexes, only that if they do, they are allowed to charge more. She stated that this legislation codified discrimination against animals.

Public Comment:

Gloria Rogan works in the industry and has a pet. Discusses how landlords are running a business.

Eric Brooks, former legislative analyst with IDA, thinks that 5% is awfully high.

Unnamed male #1 from a prior meeting stated that a tenant should pay a little extra for a pet.

Unnamed female #1, a colleague of Eric Brook's friend, states that it would be good to have tenants' representatives here at the meeting.

Philip Geary appreciates all the work that was put into this and is opposed to paying a surcharge for animals.

Shelly Austintey thinks that if you have a passion for something you would go to the extreme to pay and supports this.

Sally Stevens, SF Dog, thinks that this is a solution in search of a problem and would like to see alternative solutions.

Commissioners Comments:

Comr. Schulke says that he would prefer a 2% increase instead of a steep 5%. Comr. Hamilton responded that the landlords said that 5% was minimal for them to be responsive. Says he supports this because it may help animals, but has reservations about the percentage.

Comr. Guldbeck said that it was a great idea and paying for animals is a reality. And said it should be simple.

Comr. Garcia expressed her desire to consider alternatives such as a website to applaud rent friendly landlords and the possibility to request pledges from the landlords and members of the public, but not this ordinance.

Comr. Franklin saw this as just targeting people in their apartments and not people going out and looking for apartments.

Comr. Hamilton says it just "sweetens the pot" and perhaps would educate people. Says that it is comparable to a surcharge.

Comr. Weiss discussed the financial burden. She states we don't need this.

Voting:

Comrs. Franklin, Schulke, Routhier-Kennedy and Hamilton Voted in Favor, Weiss Opposed and Garcia Abstained. Motion passed.

C. African Clawed Frogs at the Lily Pond in Golden Gate Park

Eric Mills presented the argument to exterminate all the African Clawed Frogs in the Lily Pond at Golden Gate Park. He says that this is a serious problem and we need to just eradicate the problem once and for all. He has brought numerous speakers to the meeting. He believes that San Francisco needs to push this along.

Commissioner Comment:

Comr. Routhier-Kennedy asked why they discontinued the draining. She also asked if the frogs would migrate if they drained the pond. Mills conceded that they may.

Comr. Hamilton asked if Fish and Game had jurisdiction over city parks. Mills says the money is there, but the will to kill frogs isn't.

Comr. Schulke said that it would probably be best to get rid of them.

Comr. Garcia stated that she wanted an alternative way to trim this population issue. She suggested frog birth control, frog adoptions and also stated that cannibalism was a natural way of keeping their own numbers down. She does not like the idea of scooping them up and killing them.

Public Comment:

Phil Rossy – Has been working with Fish and Game and has removed a substantial amount. They do not see any activity in the pond right now. Says a temporary fence would be inviting the public to mess around with the frogs. There are populations in Kern County, Orange County and LA County where there have been no attempts to eradicate them there. He says that the frogs breed more when it is hot from April to November. Supports the removal of the frogs from the ponds

Stacey Peralta – Graduate student who did a field study on turtles. She discussed the types of breeder that ACFs are. She said that Western pond turtles co-exist with the ACFs. She speculates on the future and does not think that the Western Pond Turtles will be able to compete with the ACFs. She refers to them as a "voracious species." She supports the removal of the frogs from the ponds

Allen Hopkins – He said ACFs have caused the decline of other species. He says we need to think about diversity. He thinks a stitch in time saves nine. He supports the removal of the frogs from

the ponds

Paul Haskins – He is an observer of the lily pond. He thinks that they are doing a wonderful job trapping the frogs. He calls them explosive breeders. He says only licensed researchers and zoos can keep the frogs. He says they became widely distributed in the 60's because of the pregnancy tests back in the day. He supports the removal of the frogs from the ponds

Eric Larsen – from California Fish and Game. He provided information for us to read. He says that the current state is a method of controlling the population but not a method for eradication. He stated that the fish population is pretty much non-existent. He says that adoption is a nightmare because he does not trust owners to keep them contained. He stated that the infestation is a City of San Francisco's issue. Frogs are euthanized with MS222 a nerve agent which is a powdered chemical applied to the water. Rodental chemical is what the pond would be treated with for the tadpoles, larve and eggs. He supports the removal of the frogs from the ponds – the process would take one week.

Sally Stevens from SF Dog – Notes that cement is porous so we should consider that. She supports removal of the frogs.

Unknown Male #1 – supports the removal of the frogs from the ponds – because it increases the habitat of another frog

Commissioner Comment:

Most commissioners believe that this is an invasive species and that the pond is infested.

Voting:

Comrs. Franklin, Schulke, Routhier-Kennedy, Weiss and Hamilton Voted in Favor and Comr. Garcia Opposed. Motion passed.

VII. Public Comment

Virginia Handley from Animal Switchboard wants to report that the 2nd legislation has begun. Support – we should subscribe to the e-mail legislative alert. AB 64, AB 667 needs to be amended to reflect how SF dealt with it,

VIII. Task Allotment

Dog Licensing project - Rec & Park, Police Dept and ACC will get together

Hamilton handed him a note to contact the Tenderloin Housing Clinic and Randy Shaw and he was

IX. Calendar Items

Tabled the Dog Licensing to Next Month.

X. Adjournment

8:20pm

Any comments regarding the Minutes, please e-mail christine@animalattorney.com.

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

April 9, 2007

MEETING AGENDAThursday, April 12th, 2007
5:30 PMRoom 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-46892:55 p.m. msf
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APR - 9 2007

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Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Sherri Franklin, Mara Weiss DVM, J.R. Yeager,
William Hamilton, Richard Schulke, Christine Garcia, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, R. Sato,

MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 453
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Richard W. Schulke

*(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)***1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

- Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the previous meeting.

[Discussion/Action Item]

- 4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks;** Appointment of four Commissioners for next term. Proposed rodeo events in San Francisco and importation of turtle and frogs as a food source in California. New animal laws for California that have started this year.

- 5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports**
Commissioner Garcia; Operation Helping Hand Proposal.

[Discussion Item]

6. Old Business:

- A. Licensing of professional dog walkers in San Francisco. Schulke

B. Helping Hand Proposal. Garcia

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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April 12, 2007

Minutes from April 12, 2007

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5:37pm

JUN 17 2008

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Richard Schulke, Mara Weiss, DVM, Laurie Routhier, Sherri Franklin, JR Yeager, William Hamilton, Christine Garcia, Sgt. William Herndon and Capt. Vicki Guldbeck, Kenneth Sato from the Health Dept. and Scott Reiss from Park & Rec. Dept.

2. Public Comment

- None

3. Minutes

- February 2007 Minutes were approved with corrections from Comr. Hamilton.
- March 2007 Minutes were postponed to next month.

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

May 3rd is the deadline for applications for the Animal Commission. It has been a privilege to work beside the people that are here. The Black Rodio in Golden Gate Park has been cancelled. Texas is banning the importation of Turtles for consumption. New Anti-teathering law is in effect. He will be leaving early and Christine Garcia will be Chairing the meeting.

5. Committee Reports/Old Business Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Garcia; Operation Helping Hand Proposal.

Comr. Garcia discussed the new proposal for the policy that would in essence state that the City of SF believes that the prosecution of animal cruelty cases was of the utmost importance.

Commissioner Discussion:

Comr. Hamilton asked whether there would be compensation for the volunteers. Comr. Garcia explained private attorneys would not be compensated. Comr. Routhier asked how the district attorney felt about this. I explained that the district attorneys office said that they were open to volunteers. Comr. Herndon asked about the priority level for crimes. Comr. Garcia welcomed the proposal of more Court time for these types of cases. Comr. Yeager asked about the licensing issues.

Public Comment:

John Bearparant discussed his dog Haddie's unfortunate experience which he would have liked prosecuted by the SF DA's office.

Elisa discussed her support of this ordinance.

Sally Stevens from SF Dog discussed her concern about abuse of power, but is glad that those concerns have now been addressed.

Richard Fong believes that it is important to have clarity between civil and criminal laws.

Bob O'Brien likes this ordinance and says that the DA will take criminal cases only, not civil.

Commissioner Comments:

Comr. Garcia gives commentary in response to the following concerns.

Comr. Routhier says that we should have the DA support on this.

Comr. Sgt. William Herndon and Comr. Capt. Vicki Guldbeck discussed the civil action possibilities of cases and the DA's view on this item.

6. Old Business**Commissioner Schulke; Dog Licensing.**

Comr. Routhier summarized her discussions about this professional dog licensing item.

Comr. Capt. Vicki Guldbeck requests that we push this item over and she will have another update.

Comr. Scott Reiss from Park & Rec. Dept. discussed his pleasure at being included in this discussion and would like to participate with us.

Public Comment:

Unnamed Female #1: Opposed the item and fee.

Unnames Female #2: Likes this item. Wants it to be changed to an infraction.

Elisa Baker, Defender of Dogs requests a tabling of this item.

Richard Fong discussed his concern about this new licensing and impact on the industry.

Pam Hemphill: Concerned about the driving record of the dog walker

Bad Rap representative requests a delay in the decision making on the 6-8 dogs issue.

Commissioner Comment:

Comr. Franklin supports this and wants to move it forward.

Comr. Garcia doesn't think we should discriminate against people with points on their driving record.

7. Public Comment

Bob O'Brian wanted to announce the April 24th event.

Richard Fong wanted to address birth control of animals.

Female is concerned about the age of the Spay/Neuter item.

9. Calendar Items

Tabling minutes and Helping Hands for Animals will be added to this Agenda for next month.

10. Adjournment "Special Motion to Adjourn in Memory of Seals Slaughtered in Canada" 7pm

Comments: Christine@animalattorney.com

Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

May 10, 2007

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, May 10th 2007

5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

4:35 p.m. msf
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MAY - 7 2007

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10/07
Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Mara Weiss DVM, Christine Garcia, Philip Geary, Andrea Brooks, Pam Hemphill, Sally Stevens, Sgt. William Herndon - SF Police, Capt. Vicki Guldbeck - SF Animal Care & Control, Kenneth Sato - SF Health Dept., Bob Palacio - SF Park & Rec.

MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
Room 362
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Christine L. Garcia, Esq.

MEETING INFORMATION: Room 408 of City Hall

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

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3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the previous meeting.

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks.



Introduction of myself and how I came to be Chair. Welcome to four Commissioners for this next term. Announcements of current affairs for animals and latest animal law progress state and nationwide.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports
Commissioner Garcia; Operation Helping Hand Proposal.

[Discussion Item/Action Item]

- A. Licensing of professional dog walkers in San Francisco. Schulke
- B. Helping Hands for Animals Proposal. Garcia

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item] Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

- A. Elections of Vice-Chair and Secretary (discussion item and possible action item)
- B. Feeding Wildlife Issue

8. Public Comment

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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May 10, 2007

Non-Minutes from May 10, 2007

5:35pm

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Laurie Routhier-Kennedy, JR Yeager, Christine Garcia, Kenneth Sato from the Health Dept.

Absent: Commissioners Richard Schulke, Mara Weiss, DVM, Sherri Franklin, William Hamilton, Sgt. William Herndon and Capt. Vicki Guldbeck, and Bob Palacio from Park & Rec. Dept.

II. No Quorum

Because there was no Quorum, no meeting could be officially held, and therefore, there are no official minutes.

After Chair Garcia made a few brief announcements about absentees and local California bills, the three Commissioners made themselves available for public commentary.

A round of applause was given to Kenneth Sato from the Health Dept. for his time served with the Commission because he is retiring.

Commissioner JR Yeager gave his advice for the future of the Animal Control and Welfare Commission.

Two members of the public spoke.

Comments: christine@animalattorney.com.

JUN 17 2008

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June 14, 2007

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, June 14th 2007
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

1:35 p.m. usf
DOCUMENTS DEPT.

JUN 11 2007

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6/14/07
.....
Arlene Kennedy-Routhier, Mara Weiss DVM, Christine Garcia, Philip Geary, Andrea Brooks, Pam Hemphill, Sally Stevens, Sgt. William Herndon - SF Police,
Capt. Vicki Guldbeck - SF Animal Care & Control, SF Health Dept., Bob Palacio - SF Park & Rec.

MAILING ADDRESS: City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 362
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074
WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Christine L. Garcia, Esq.
MEETING INFORMATION: Room 408 of City Hall

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

Call to Order and Roll Call

-- Vote taken on excused absences

Public Comment

-- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

Approval of Draft Minutes from the previous meeting.

[Discussion/Action Item]

Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks.

Introduction of myself and how I came to be Chair.

Welcome to four Commissioners for this next term.

Announcements of current affairs for animals and latest animal law progress state and nationwide.

Statement regarding goals and policies of the Commission and how it should be run. Also, an update on the progress of how we have been approaching the Board of Supervisors.

Mentioning to the other Commissioners the pending/open/abandoned subjects of drafting literature for the Animals in Domestic Violence project and the Professional Dog Licensing issue.

Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

A. Commissioner Garcia; Guideline Policies for Public Speech.

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Commissioner Garcia will discuss her ideas on policy guidelines for free speech at the meetings. A copy of the policy is presented. Garcia is interested in feedback for vote at next month if people are interested. This item is being raised for the first time and would like to get an idea of how favorable the commission is on this item.

Old Business

Commissioner Garcia; Operation Helping Hand Proposal.

[Discussion Item/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

Garcia will discuss the item and the discussions with City Attorney, District Attorney and Supervisor Peskin and Move the Policy for an Approval vote as a Policy/Resolution for the Board of Supervisors to Approve. Again, this is a policy and not an ordinance.

New Business

[Discussion/Action Item] Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

A. Commissioner Geary; Resolution on Battery Cages.

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

Geary will discuss the item and the discussions with Supervisor Peskin and Move the Policy for an Approval vote as a Policy/Resolution for the Board of Supervisors to Approve.

B. Commissioner Garcia; Budget Approval Request.

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Commissioner Garcia will seek to approve having the Commissions budget be used for the following reasons:
 1. Buy placards with the following Commissioners Names: Christine Garcia, Philip Geary, Andrea Brooks. Pam Hemphill, Sally Stevens.

C. Commissioner Garcia; Voting.

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

The Commission should elect a new Chair, Secretary and possibly a new Vice-Chair if the current Vice-Chair is elected as Chair.

Public Comment

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Calendar Items

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Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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June 14, 2007

Minutes from June 14th, 2007

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JUN 17 2008

5:46pm

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Chair Christine Garcia, Comr. Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Comr. Mara Weiss DVM, , Comr. Philip Gerrie, Comr. Pam Hemphill, Comr. Sally Stevens, Comr. Sgt. William Herndon - SF Police, Comr. Capt. Vicki Guldbeck - SF Animal Care & Control, Comr. Bob Palacio - SF Park & Rec.

Absent: Excused, Comr. Andrea Brooks and Unexcused, Public Health Dept.

2. Public Comment

A member of the public commented on the situation of egg-laying hens in battery cages in the State of California . He described the keeping of the hens in very small cages in which several hens are put for their whole lives. As to the commentator many hens die of starvation after breaking their legs due to deteriorated bones and the narrowness of their cages. He also pointed out that several retailers already refuse to sell eggs from battery cages to their customers.

Roselyn Ward representing the S.F. Green Party demanded the abolition of battery cages.

Peter McCausky pointed to the conditions of battery hens in other States of the U.S. which he described to be comparable to the keeping conditions in the State of California . He described the conditions to be very narrow for the animals. 6 to 8 hens are kept in a cage the size of a newspaper. Because of the limited space the hens tend to cannibalize each other and there is no room for them to retreat against attacks.

Dr. Cole disagreed with item 7 on the agenda and stated that the item should not be discussed by the Commission given the priority of other more pressing subjects such as the situation of homeless in the city of San Francisco and the fact that there are no battery cages in the city of San Francisco.

Carl Friedman, the director of Animal Care and Control offered the assistance of his agency to the Commission and expressed his hopes for a good cooperation.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the previous meeting

Commissioner Garcia referred to the previous meeting and to the fact that due to several absences voting was impossible and therefore only a very abbreviated version of the minutes was drafted.

4. Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks

Commissioner Garcia introduced herself and explained why she became the Chairperson for the meeting.

She then introduced the four new Commissioners, Andrea Brooks, who was not able to attend the meeting, Philip Gerrie, Pam Hemphill, and Sally Stevens.

Commissioner Garcia then made announcements of current affairs.

In Sunnyvale 30 pigeons have been killed at a Caltrain station (Laurence Station) after a large portion of the station including the at that time present pigeons was netted in. The pigeons died of starvation after 4-5 days inside the net, although several phonecalls from citizens had reached the authorities to release the birds. Commissioner Garcia addresses the city government to become involved in such matters by writing letters to other neighboring communities.

Also, on the Legislative Meeting on June 11th, Assemblywoman Audra Strickland required trappers who trap animals on private grounds in order to remove them from the properties to first try non-lethal methods of removal and only if unsuccessful, to kill the animals applying a humane killing method. She requested that the clients should be made aware of this possibility.

Commissioner Garcia also referred to a written statement which was handed out to the Board of Supervisors containing several suggestions. She asked for any comments or further suggestions on these issues.

She also directed the attention of the people present at the meeting to open or pending issues which are in need of consideration. She invited anyone interested in these issues to further process on them. The issues are drafting literature on Animals in Domestic Violence and Professional Dog Licensing.

5. Committee Reports/ Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Garcia proposed a policy to encourage members of the public to refer to issues not related to animal welfare only if given a specific public platform to do so. She invited the Commission and the members of the public to comment on the proposal.

Sgt. Herndon from the SF Police pointed out that the proposal might interfere with the constitutional right of free speech. He suggested contacting the City Attorney in order to acquire information about the procedure.

Another member of the Commission suggests drafting a document prior to meetings in which all the relevant issues are listed.

Sgt. Herndon also referred to the possibility of inviting a mediator to the meeting.

Carl Friedman as a member of the public suggested a re-wording of the proposal, since it might be misinterpreted.

6. Old Business

Commissioner Garcia introduced to the Commission a new resolution policy stating that there should be a private right of action made available for attorneys in animal welfare matters when the District Attorney refuses to file a claim against animal abusers. She pointed out that this issue should be of high priority for the city of San Francisco and a statement of the city toward other cities and the Nation.

Carl Friedman as a member of the public stated that the District Attorneys have put many offenders of animal welfare in jail and that their efforts should be acknowledged.

Vicki Guldbech makes it clear that the issue is no longer an ordinance but a policy.

Commissioner Garcia made a request that the policy should be handed over to the Board of Supervisors.

The request passes unanimously.

7. New Business

A. Commissioner Gerrie introduced to the Commission a description of issue regarding the Resolution on Battery Cages.

He pointed out that there are no hens kept in battery cages in the city of SF but that the people do consume eggs which may originate from similar keeping methods.

He states that the public should be made aware of the fact that they have a choice in buying eggs from hens which are kept under better conditions.

B. Commissioner Garcia raised a Budget Approval Request for placards which was acknowledged by Carl Friedman and the placards for the members of the Commission were handed out.

C. Voting

Comr. Kennedy-Routhier states that she wished for the voting to move forward this month.

Chair Garcia's nomination was seconded by Pam Hemphill.

Mara Weiss, DVM nominated and Sally Stevens seconded supported Routhier.

Philip Gerrie and Pam Hemphill supported Garcia.

Mara Weiss, DVM and Sally Stevens supported Routhier.

Public Comment:

Dr. Ronald Cole supported Routhier for her past experience.

Anna Williams strongly supported Garcia because of her interest of all animals.

Elisa with Defender of Dogs supported Garcia because of her legal background.

Lisa Stafford supported Routhier because of her previous work.

Richard Fong liked both candidates.

Roselyn Ward supported Garcia because of her committed volunteering in the past with In Defense of Animals.

Joanne Kipness supported Routhier as a prior Commissioner.

Commissioner Comment:

Sally Stevens mentioned that liked Garcia and her support of Routhier was not dispositive about her support of Garcia as well. Her decision was based upon the fact that there are 4 new members so institutionalized knowledge would be good.

Pam Hemphill stated that she supported Garcia because of her

Garcia stated that she supported Routhier but wanted her opportunity.

Philip Gerrie supported Garcia because of the learning curve.

Routhier stated that she wanted us to think about our goals and she also supported Garcia.

Mara Weiss, DVM stated she gave Routhier the support because of her past experience.

Voting:

Gerrie, Garcia and Hemphill supported Garcia

Stevens, Routhier and Weiss supported Routhier

8. Public Comment

Unnamed Female #1 supported the anti-Battery Egg resolution.

Unnamed Male #2 supported the anti-Battery Egg Resolution.

9. Special Adjournment in Memory of all the Pigeons who were recently killed in Sunnyvale.

7pm



July 12, 2007

MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, July 12th 2007
5:30 PM

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

.....
Muriel Kennedy-Routhier, Mara Weiss DVM, Christine Garcia, Philip Gerrie, Andrea Brooks, Pam Hemphill,
Elly Stevens, Sgt. William Herndon - SF Police, Capt. Vicki Guldbeck - SF Animal Care & Control, SF Health
Dept., Bob Palacio - SF Park & Rec.
.....

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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074

WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Christine L. Garcia, Esq.

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MEETING INFORMATION: Room 408 of City Hall

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(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

Call to Order and Roll Call

☐ Vote taken on excused absences

Public Comment

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Approval of Draft Minutes from the previous meeting.

[Discussion/Action Item]

Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks.

Announcements of current affairs for animals and latest animal law progress state and nationwide: These announcements include, but are not limited to: Marin County - The recent death of 240 goats from Goats R who have died of suffocation after a 32 foot truck over turned on July 6, 2007; Sacramento County - An estimated 300 to 600 birds -- all game fowl bred to fight -- were found, and countless dead birds were

ered throughout a cockfighting location in Sacramento on July 4, 2007; and recent California Animal
station.

Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports

A. Commissioner Garcia; Public Health Department; Office Space.

[Discussion/Action Item]

- ☐ Commissioner Garcia will discuss her efforts at getting an office space from San Francisco and also for getting the Public Health Department to send us another representative to sit on the commission.

Old Business

Commissioner Routhier; Update on Plans of Whether or Not Comr. Routhier Will Move Forward with Dog Licensing Law.

[Discussion Item]

- ☐ Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

This is not an action item, only a discussion item. Routhier will update the community on her plans with the previously raised ordinance .

New Business

[Discussion/Action Items] Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

A. Commissioner Garcia; Resolution/Ordinance: Non-lethal pest control for all pests" other than insects must be used in San Francisco

This is not an action item, only a discussion item. Comr. Garcia will merely introduce the issue of rats and mice pest control in San Francisco and discuss related items to pest control such as Cat guardianship, humane traps, and no sources of food to prevent rodent breeding.

B. Commissioner Gerrie; Resolution Opposing the Abusive Factory Farming Practice the Confinement of Egg-Laying Hens in Battery Cages

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

Geary will discuss the **item** (please attach PDF document here) and the possible resolution with the Board of Supervisors to Approve. The pertinent portion of the resolution is that: **BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE** opposes battery cage egg production, based on the inherent cruelty of confining egg-laying hens in battery cages; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare urges the Board of Supervisors to encourage consumers of eggs not to purchase eggs produced by caged hens, as well as to limit the City and County of San Francisco's procurement of eggs to those from cage-free hens.

C. Commissioner Garcia; Voting.

[Discussion/Action Item]

- ☐ Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

The Commission should elect a new Chair, Secretary and possibly a new Vice-Chair if the current Vice-Chair is elected as Chair.

Public Comment

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Calendar Items

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Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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July 12, 2007 (Cancelled)

*****THIS MEETING IS CANCELLED*****

***** YOU NEED NOT ATTEND - THIS MEETING IS CANCELLED *****

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, July 12th 2007

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074

WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Christine L. Garcia, Esq.

MEETING INFORMATION: Room 408 of City Hall

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Vote taken on excused absences

2. Public Comment

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3. **Approval of Draft Minutes from the previous meeting.**

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. **Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks.**

Announcements of current affairs for animals and latest animal law progress state and nationwide: These announcements include, but are not limited to: Marin County - The recent death of 240 goats from Goats R Us who have died of suffocation after a 32 foot truck over turned on July 6, 2007; Sacramento County - An estimated 300 to 600 birds -- all game fowl bred to fight -- were found, and countless dead birds were scattered throughout a cockfighting location in Sacramento on July 4, 2007; and recent California Animal Legislation.

5. **Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports**

A. Commissioner Garcia; Public Health Department; Office Space.

[Discussion/Action Item]

Commissioner Garcia will discuss her efforts at getting an office space from San Francisco and also for getting the Public Health Department to send us another representative to sit on the commission.

6. **Old Business**

Commissioner Routhier; Update on Plans of Whether or Not Comr. Routhier Will Move Forward with Dog Licensing Law.

[Discussion Item]

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A. Commissioner Garcia; Resolution/Ordinance: Non-lethal pest control for all "pests" other than insects must be used in San Francisco

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B. Commissioner Gerrie; Resolution Opposing the Abusive Factory Farming Practice of the Confinement of Egg-Laying Hens in Battery Cages (PDF)

[Discussion/Action Item]

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C. Commissioner Garcia; Voting.

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10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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August 9, 2007

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, August 9th 2007

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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JUN 17 2008

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San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

COMMISSION VOICEMAIL: (415) 554-6074

WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc

COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Christine L. Garcia, Esq.

MEETING INFORMATION: Room 408 of City Hall

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

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3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the previous meeting.

[Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's Report and Opening Remarks.

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5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports**A. Commissioner Garcia; Public Health Department; Office Space; Legislative Update.**

[Discussion/Action Item]

Commissioner Garcia will discuss her efforts at getting an office space from San Francisco and also for getting the Public Health Department to send us another representative to sit on the commission.

Guest Speaker: Virginia Handley will be speaking regarding the California Animal Legislation

B. Commissioner Garcia; Recent Coyote Deaths in Golden Gate Park.

[Discussion/Action Item]

Commissioner Garcia will open up discussion to the public to hear concerns and collect ideas on the latest occurrences of needless animal deaths in golden gate park. Update and discussion about the recent death of coyotes in San Francisco and the educational efforts being made in our community.

Guest speakers: Kat Brown (ACC) and Kiska Icard (SF/SPCA)

6. Old Business**Commissioner Routhier; Update on dog walker permitting.**

[Discussion Item]

Discussion and possible action to recommend that all professional dog walkers be required to obtain a professional dog walking permit and adhere to a defined set of dog walker guidelines.

[Commissioner Routhier]

7. New Business

[Discussion/Action Items] Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

A. Commissioner Gerrie; Resolution Opposing the Abusive Factory Farming Practice of the Confinement of Egg-Laying Hens in Battery Cages

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

Geary will discuss the **item** (please attach PDF document here) and the possible resolution with the Board of Supervisors to Approve. The pertinent portion of the resolution is that: **BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE** opposes battery cage egg production, based on the inherent cruelty of confining egg-laying hens in battery cages; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare urges the Board of Supervisors to encourage consumers of eggs not to purchase eggs produced by caged hens, as well as to limit the City and County of San Francisco's procurement of eggs to those from cage-free hens. (See Agenda from last month to see PDF copy of the proposed resolution)

B. Commissioner Garcia; Resolution/Ordinance: Wildlife Health Care and Support in San Francisco

This is not an action item, only a discussion item. Comr. Garcia will merely introduce the issue of desiring to have a wildlife care center in San Francisco's Animal Care and Control department. Currently, pigeons and other sparrows are not treated in San Francisco and a program of care for wildlife should be considered.

C. Commissioner Garcia; Voting.

[Discussion/Action Item]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on items.

The Commission should elect a new Chair, Secretary and possibly a new Vice-Chair if the current Vice-Chair is elected as Chair.

8. Public Comment

Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

9. Calendar Items

Commissioners may provide a brief description of item(s) they request be on next month's agenda. Discussion and comprehensive narrative of new calendar submissions will take place during the next meeting. Commissioners need to follow-up on their calendar item submissions via email to the Chair at least one week in advance of the next monthly meeting.

10. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

11. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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August 9, 2007

Minutes from August 9th, 2007

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5:50 PM

JUN 17 2008

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Chair Christine Garcia, Comr. Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Comr. Mara Weiss, Comr. Philip Gerrie, Comr. Sally Stephens, Comr. Andrea Brooks, Comr. Sgt. William Herndon – SF Police, Comr. Bob Palacio – SF Park & Rec.

Absent: Excused, Comr. Pam Hemphill, Vacant Public Health Dept.

2. Public Comment

Lisa Vittori expressed a concern that Park & Rec's newly hired rangers would be used to ticket dog walkers with dogs off-leash.

Bob O'Brien spoke of a lawsuit filed against UCSF against the use of animals in their research especially the use of dogs.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from previous meeting June 7, 2007

4. Chairperson's Report and Opening remarks

Comr. Garcia apologized for the cancellation of last month's meeting. The agenda was not posted with in 72 hours. Comr. Garcia also spoke of the recent deaths of goats in Marin & game fowl in Sacramento.

5. Committee Reports

Comr. Garcia has requested a representative from Public Health Dept but hasn't received a reply.

A.

Guest speaker, Virginia Handley, spoke of California Animal Legislation. AB449 & AB 1477 regulating nuisance trappers would require customers be informed of the fate of the trapped animal. It would also regulate humane methods of killing.

A bill for minimum standards for the care of animals in pet shops would require a warning if violated. In the past warnings have not resulted in action. AB1614 will require more humane treatment at rodeos. AB1634 spay/neuter bill has been withdrawn but SF can lower fees for spay/neutering on its own without waiting on the State. SB1633, Carol Migden's bill, would require consumers be informed if animal products are from cloned animals, suggests ACW support Carol Migden in this effort. SB353 would add animals to a restraint order. SB880 would allow the sale of kangaroo products in California. Adidas has sponsored this bill and suggest opposition. The current unapproved budget has no provision for more wardens who handle cases brought to Fish & Game concerning the sale of illegal animals in the live animal market. SF currently does not have a game warden. Encourages ACW to take an active roll on legislative issues concerning animals.

Public Comment:

Richard Fong would be more supportive to alternatives to AB 1634

Jamie Ray of SF ROMP supports AB1614 because it will require to have a vet on staff and decrease the number of rodeos held each year. Supports AB1477 requiring customers to know that trapped animals will be killed as trapped wildlife cannot be relocated in California. AB 449 is problematic due to difficulty in killing by trappers in a humane way. It would allow for killing an animal only in a Co2 chamber which is not considered humane. Appendix 3 would allow for allowing other human methods such as shooting. Laurie Routhier pointed out that the ACW has no ability to voice concerns to the state legislature only to the Board of Supervisors.

Comr. Laurie Routhier explained past unsuccessful efforts to voice the Commissions concerns to the State via the Board of Supervisors

Comr. William Herndon pointed out that the AWC is an advisory body only to the Board of Supervisors that doesn't prevent us as individuals from speaking to the Legislature.

B. Recent deaths of two coyotes in GG Park.

Guest speaker, Kat Brown deputy director of ACC in SF, described the coyote incident starting on July 14th in which the report states that a coyote had jumped on the back of a leashed dog and bit it. No action was taken then except to post warning signs in the area. It was assumed to be an isolated incident. The next morning, July 15th four off-leash dogs in the area were chased by coyotes until leashed. Coyotes showed no fear of dogs nor humans at that point. Fish & Game were notified and insisted on meeting that afternoon. ACC had been supportive of coyotes in SF since first seen 18 months ago. The coyotes were spotted while different State & City representatives met at the site of the attacks. USDA & Fish & Game officials determined that the coyotes were habituated to humans and thus were a public safety risk. Kat received a call later that night that two coyotes were shot by Fish & Game. The aftermath has shown a need for ACC to increase an educational campaign about co-existing with wildlife. The coyote educational efforts include; door hangers, posters, out-reach to make sure coyotes can survive in SF. ACC has met with concerned representatives of groups such as ROMP, SPCA, Sierra Club etc..

Comr. Garcia asked if there are future similar incidents will ACC report it to Fish & Game so readily.

Kat Brown replied probably not so quickly and investi-

gate on their own first.

Comr. Garcia asked about relocation possibilities.

Kat Brown replied that relocating wildlife is illegal in California. The most humane death was two single shots that killed them instantly. Fish & Game makes the rules about relocating wild animals within the State. They are charged with public safety. ACC knew when they called Fish & Game that they could not relocate the coyotes. ACC thought that Fish & Game would only advise them on how to handle the situation. The red flag was when a coyote jumped on a dog three times its size. This was not normal behavior.

Comr. Herndon asked Kat if we are obligated to call Fish & Game about such situations.

Kat Brown replied that they do have some discretion but when it is perceived as a public safety issue they are obligated to call.

Comr. Routhier asked Kat if securing food trash more securely such as in bear-proof containers would help.

Kat Brown replied that that would help. Picking the cans up on a regular basis would also help. Kat recommended bear-proof can through the City as coyotes are throughout the City.

Guest Speaker Kiska Icard (SF/SPCA) will work with other City agencies regarding wildlife. Links on SPCA's website to resources are in place. SPCA will educate consistent with ACC and incorporate coyote awareness into their humane education programs.

Comr. Garcia read into the record a letter from API, Animal Protection Institute. The letter offered API's assistance, information and referrals in non lethal and humane treatment of wildlife. Api's website includes good wildlife policies adopted by other CA cities

Comr. Garcia read into the record a letter from Golden Gate Audubon Society. The letter supported Coyotes as part of a Bio-Diversity management plan. Suggestions included not feeding coyotes; keeping pets indoors at night, education; enforcement of existing laws against feeding wildlife and enforcing leash laws.

Public Comment:

Arelene Gimmel asked Kat if she knew who the Presidio had hired as a wildlife management expert. Kat did not know but would be interested to find out. Arelene was concerned about coyotes eating food intended for feral cats and possible enforcement of feeding wildlife prohibitions. She also hoped that the newly hired park Rangers would enforce the existing leash and other laws.

Martha Hoffman stated that feral cats have reduced in numbers by 90% since 1993. She suggested coyotes be neutered as feral cats are. She also suggested waivers of banning relocation of wildlife. She asked that feral cats not be blamed.

Alicia with Defender of Dogs felt that the problem was with the homeless and food left behind from them. She suggested fencing off an area in GG Park to keep problem coyotes.

Virginia Handley spoke of the coyotes having plenty to eat on their own, gophers etc. She supported signs to bring awareness to the public.

June Wilson, said that Fish & Game were too trigger happy.

Jamie Ray of ROMP proposed AWC asking Board of Supervisors for money to post permanent signs in the park about what is natural and unnatural behavior, to report unnatural behavior for coyotes, and not to feed them. She also said that SF is the first County in CA to ban 2nd generation rodenticides so rodent predators should be encouraged .

Dr. Ron Cole proposed that homeless clean up include their refuse as well as needles.

Bob O'brien asked Kat what would ACC do differently in the future rather than call Fish & Game. Kat replied that they would contact local experts first but if public safety is a risk they may not go through all possible local people.

Richard Fong expressed clarification of existing codes regarding dangerous animals.

Nancy Stafford feels that off leash dogs and feral cats are not a mitigating issue.

Commission comments of item 5 B

Comr. Gerrie read into the record comments of Matthew Zlatunich who proposed that the AWC pursue improvement of SF's biodiversity management policies and practices.

6. Old Business

Comr. Routhier on dog walker permitting

Comr. Palacio gave an update on the need for regulation of dog walkers due to increased usage of dog walking areas in the City's parks administered by the Park & Rec dept.

Public Comment

Alicia asked Comr. Palacio if any limit was set for how many dogs can be walked at a time. Comr. Palacio replied that it was currently set at six but it wasn't definite. Alicia read a proposal to incrementally increase dog walking fees for walking more

than 6

Jamie Ray asked if this was to raise money or to regulate dog walkers. Comr. Routhier replied that it wouldn't raise money but rather to regulate professional dog walkers overseen by Rec & Park. Comr Palacio said that it would be enforced by the new park Rangers and that infractions of the rules would result in the pulling of the dog walking permit.

Joe Hague, with Pro-Dog urged passing the measure as it is written as it has been in ACW for approx. a year.

Nancy Stafford of Pro-Dog asked if what was being urged to pass was the same as written on May 21.

Teal Weiss of Pro-Dog urged the measures passage.

Eric Weiss urged the measures' passage, to upgrade/renovate existing enclosed dog enclosures and to establish new ones.

Ruth Jensen of Pro Dog wants the measures passage to gain respectability for the profession.

Richard Fong agreed with Comr. Bob Palacio.

Commission Discussion

Comr. Routhier recommended a motion to write a proposal letter to the Board of Supervisors containing some of the pros and cons about the number of dogs that can be walked and that this recommendation be passed to the Board of Supervisors and to Park & Rec that this permitting process go forward.

Comr. Palacio said that AWC's dog walking numbers and Park & Rec's Commission dog walking numbers (currently 6) will both be considered. The Park & Rec's Commission will take a while to work on this issue as they have not started yet.

Comr. Herndon clarified what was being voted on which is a recommendation of dog walking policy that may or may not be adopted by the Board of Supervisors which would then go to Rec & Park for approval as it is under their jurisdiction. Rec & Park cannot set fees but could recommend to the Board of Supervisors a fee that the Park & Rec dept could charge for the permit.

Comr. Routhier motion is amended to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that a permit process be put in place for Rec & Park lands that includes guidelines already discussed including max. number of dogs, 6 or 8 + allowed to be walked with attachments of arguments for & against those numbers. That we do not include penalties. That we do include draft that Comr. Palacio presented to get it into Rec & Parks hands as soon as possible. That what is being voted on is the May 21 st draft but taking out the penalties and including arguments for 6 or 8 + dogs.

Voting. All Commissioners voted for the Dog Walker resolution and it was passed.

7 A New Business Commissioner Gerrie, Resolution opposing the abusive farming practices of the confinement of egg-laying hens in battery cages.

Comr. Gerrie, San Francisco was recently selected as the most humane city by the US Humane Society based on how we treat our companion animals. SF has not led in how we regard the animals we use for food. They are hidden from our daily lives. Battery caged chickens is an egregious example of animal abuse. This resolution brings to attention this practice that remains hidden. Resolution was para-phrased and is available in the agenda for the June meeting of ACW.

Comr. Routhier asked Comr. Gerrie if the resolution asks that the Board of Supervisors oppose the purchase of battery cage hen eggs and that any department within the City that buys eggs for any purpose only buy cage-free eggs. Comr. Gerrie replied in the affirmative.

Comr. Routhier also asked concerning an earlier meeting with Aron Peskin and Comr. Gerrie and Garcia. Supervisor Peskin had been supportive.

Public Comment:

Virginia Handley, Animal Switchboard, supportive and encouraged vendors contractors selling eggs to the City to buy cage-free. She also spoke of the inhumane caging of hens in Chinatown and wanted the ACW to do something about the food animals in the City. She wanted to know what enforcement of existing laws have been done by ACC.

Nora Kramer, supportive and emphasized growing support & trend nationally against battery caged hens.

Gail Camy, spoke of the specific conditions that battery-cage chickens suffer.

Anna Williams, spoke of the need to expedite the resolution and that battery cage hens treatment are in sharp contrast to the namesake of our City.

Richard Fong, spoke of a need to study the background of egg production in general in the US before passing it to the Supervisors.

June Wilson, spoke of possibly obtaining free parking in the City Hall garage for commissioners on the day of meeting.

Dr Ron Cole, spoke of his internet research that cited a study that battery cage hens show less stress hormone than cage free. He also cited that the names on egg cartons such as "cage free", "organic" etc. were misleading and rarely inspected.

Peter Brandt, cited several studies from the scientific community showing the cruelty and harm of confining chickens in such small cages. He said that there is no legal impediment to adopting this resolution. That it is our moral obligation to see to the welfare of the voiceless and defenseless.

Commissioner Discussion,

Comr. Herndon, spoke of his own chickens and the nutritional value of his chickens' eggs. He suggested that if the City were to buy cage-free eggs it would be healthier for those that consumed them.

Comr. Andrea Brooks asked what did it mean for the city to encourage buying cage free eggs. Comr. Christine Garcia responded that it would be by education of the conditions of these conditions.

Comr. Routhier spoke of the added part of the resolution that encourages the City itself to buy cage-free eggs, giving the resolution some teeth. Personalizing a relationship with a sponsoring Supervisor will impact on how this resolution is received by the Board.

Comr. Routhier made a motion to pass this resolution and policy.

Comr. Stephens expressed concern that SF passing this resolution would not have any impact on egg producers who are not in SF. Comr. Stephens wanted the ACWC to focus animals in SF.

Comr. Garcia responded that this resolution falls within the gambit of this commission because the consumption of these animal products is taking place in SF. It is making a statement concerning animal welfare and cruelty generally.

Comr. Garcia seconded the motion.

Voting,

All voted in a favor of the resolution opposing the factory farming practice of egg-laying hens in battery cages.

Comr. & Chair Garcia chose to postpone discussion on item 7B until next month.

7 C. Voting for Chair and Secretary.

Comr. Stephens nominated Laurie Routhier for Chair. Comr. Brooks seconded. All Comrs. voted in favor.

Comr. Garcia nominated Comr. Gerrie for Secretary. Comr Routhier seconded. All Comrs. voted in favor.

8. Public Comment.

Alicia spoke of her groups' investigation into misconduct at ACC and her hope that ACWC would look into it in future meetings.

9. Calendar items.

Chair Routhier asked that all items be e-mailed to her by the Friday before the meeting.

10. Closing review.

Chair Routhier will work on the Dog Walker Permitting and offered to help Comr. Gerrie sending the Battery Cage Resolution to the Board.

11. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 13, 2007
5:30 PM

09-10-07A11:44 RCVD

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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SEP 10 2007

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Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Mara Weiss DVM, Christine Garcia, Andrea Brooks,
Philip Gerrie, Pam Hemphill, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, Bob Palacio
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COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy-Routhier

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the August 9, 2007 Meeting [Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks [Discussion Item]

- A) Commission discussion regarding how we operate as a commission, how to get items on the agenda, the basics of our meeting laws, and thoughts about how to successfully reach our goals.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner's Reports [Discussion Item]

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requesting action by the Board of Supervisors [Discussion Item/Action]

Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

7. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

8. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- A) Discussion and possible action to recommend a management system and provisions that would protect wildlife caught behind the electric fences enclosing goats being used to control vegetation growth on lands under the jurisdiction of the city.
[Commissioner Routhier]

9. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

10. Calendar Items

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

12. Adjournment

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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September 13, 2007

5:34 PM

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JUN 17 2008

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners: Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Christine Garcia, Andrea Brooks, Sally Stephens, Philip Gerrie, Pam Hemphill, Mara Weiss DVM, Vicky Guldbech - ACC, William Herndon - SF Police, Bob Palacio - SF Park & Rec

Absent: Public Health Dept. Vacant

2. Public Comment

L Danyielle Yacabucci - Welcomed new commissioners aboard.

Richard Fong - Suggested guard dogs for the new park rangers. Supports a resolution forbidding campers from removing wild animals from their habitats.

Sylvia Johnson - Supports welfare of animals.

Sergio Swett - Concern for welfare of dogs at dog parks especially his dog which ate an unknown substance. Park official refused to close dog park for investigation. Concern for junkies near to dogs and playground. Concern of overall slow response of local government.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the August 9, 2007 Meeting

Comr. Stephens - Name spellings corrected.

Public Comment

Lurilla Harris - Spelling corrections.

Richard Fong - Corrected his previous statements.

Comr. Garcia moved to approve minutes. Comr. Stephens seconded.

Minutes approved unanimously with corrections.

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

Comr. Routhier - Opened discussion on the direction of the commission and basics on meeting laws. Public comment is needed on any item voted on. Commissioners do not need to respond. Once public comment is closed no further comment is allowed.

Comr. Weiss - Wanted clarification on responding to inaccuracies in some public Comment.

Comr. Routhier – History of having experts in audience reply to publics' questions. Inappropriate for audience members to shout in response.

Comr. Weiss – Asks if it is appropriate as a veterinarian to reply to questions or inaccuracies after public comment.

Comr. Routhier – It is at the discretion of the commissioner.

Comr. Guldbeck - Often best to wait until end of public comment and reply in general rather than specifically to untrue or inaccurate statements.

Comr. Routhier – More important to focus on purpose as commissioners and whether replying to speakers serves that end.

Comr. Guldbeck - Answering is sometimes appropriate if many speakers are saying something similarly untrue or inaccurate.

Comr. Herndon – Public comment is “comment” not dialogue. If a commissioner wants to make a comment, he/she can do so afterward.

Comr. Hemphill – Questions for clarification are OK but not summary judgements.

Comr. Herndon – Consider agendizing for further discussion, for the following meeting certain topics that may merit investigation.

Comr. Palacio – Agrees with Comr. Herndon. Personal comments can be saved until after the meeting.

Comr. Guldbeck – Agrees with agendizing items that need more investigation until the following meeting.

Comr. Gerrie - Many good suggestions for the commission are given by the public. Minutes record those suggestions but it ends there.

Comr. Routhier - Agenda items can be brought forward by any commissioner. Chair verifies that it is under ACW's jurisdiction. During meeting the agenda item is opened for discussion by a motion which is seconded.

Comr. Garcia – In previous years attended meeting as a member of the public. Had ideas but was unable to inspire commissioners to adopt them. Suggests keeping a tally of ideas from the public during meeting. Review ideas during the “closing review of task allotment”. Collectively decide which ones to take up. Public would then know if their idea has been taken up.

Comr. Routhier – One difficulty would be some items would need more research to determine if or what ACW has jurisdiction to move on. It may be more appropriate for other agencies to take the item up.

Comr. Brooks – Unclear on possible boundaries on taking new items for the agenda.

Comr. Herndon – Commission has taken up many items over the years, has spent much time and effort yet hasn't gone anywhere. Commission has had publicity, created controversy, received media attention, but no action. Bringing items that may just receive police attention to the commission may serve the public by bringing awareness to the issue. Advises looking at issues in terms of making it better for the animals and people in SF. Took two years of meetings to pass “Bite & Run Law”. Issue was taken up and passed on the state level recently. Commission has set an example that has extended to a larger constituency.

Comr. Routhier – Finds it helpful to have City dept. reps. on the commission to hear how laws are structured.

Comr. Guldbeck – Meetings with few agenda items can be a time for community outreach for taking up new issues.

Comr. Routhier – Question over the years has been, “What can and should we do?”

Commission’s job is to make recommendations to the board of Supervisors. Outreach leads to education which has been a sticky issue as to the jurisdiction of the commission.

Comr. Hemphill – Regrets not more communication among commissioners.

Comr. Routhier – Sunshine Law forbids a quorum of voting commissioners meeting about an item via, e-mail, or other means. Three members are OK and can work together on an item.

Comr. Herndon – Has been contacted in the past and has given his opinion about issues. As a non-voting commissioner, has been willing to assist.

Comr. Stephens – Suggests focusing on policy and regulation issues. Suggests giving back round information to other commissioners to prepare. If information is given to commissioners, must also be given to the public. Unsure if that is possible or doable.

Comr. Routhier – Refers to Commissioner Orientation Packet about questions for agenda items concerning Commission’s and Board of Supervisors’ jurisdiction over an item. Guest speakers are helpful for their expertise and need to be prepped beforehand as to appropriate time to speak and staying on issue at hand. Helpful to list names of guest speakers on the agenda for public notice.

Comr. Brooks – What would be an appropriate time limit for guest speakers?

Comr. Routhier - That is up to the inviting commissioner and the speaker to work out taking into consideration limited time constraints.

Comr. Brooks – How should we liaison with the Board of Supervisors to see if agenda items will be welcomed or not?

Comr. Routhier – Suggests not acting alone but with support from Commission. Commissioner presenting and agenda item and the Chair going together has been a past practice. This isn’t policy but how to be effective as a team. We need to present items that are favorable to the Supervisors. If we present unfavorable items we will be wasting our time.

Comr. Garcia – What about contacting a Supervisor first with possible list of items for the agenda to see what would be acceptable?

Comr. Routhier – Preferable to bring that list first to our Commission for consideration.

Comr. Herndon – Recalls past Commission meetings in which Supervisors came to us with items for review.

Comr. Brooks – Uncomfortable with other Commissioners meeting with Supervisors on issues not discussed beforehand at Commission meetings.

Comr. Herndon – We advise the Supervisors on what the public is presenting.

Comr. Guldbeck – Prior meeting with Supervisors have included questions on how much time our Commission has met on a certain issue.

Comr. Stephens – We exist as a buffer between public and the Board on animal issues.

Received a copy of “Good Government Guide” from City Attorney’s office. Found it helpful and recommended obtaining a copy for all Commissioners.

4 A Public Comment

Nancy Wuerfel – Complimented Commissions’ discussion. Health Code states Commission reports to the Board for recommendations as well as policy of actions that may be taken by any agency of the City for the welfare of animals. Health Code gives Commission wider latitude. Supports Comr. Garcia’s suggestion to go over suggestions from the public during “Closing review and task allotments”. Two types of public comment; first from experts includes dialogue to educate; second from public to listen.

Lisa Vittori – How much do Commissioners outside interests influence meetings with Supervisors? Do responsibilities as Commissioners curtail speaking in behalf of ones’ outside interests? Doesn’t like having to choose between wildlife & domestic animals. Feels it is a false dichotomy. Feels pushed to one side or another. Encouraged Commission to take welfare of all animals into account.

Sylvia Johnson – Supports animal welfare.

Richard Fong – Wants updates on issues.

5. Committee Reports/Commissioner’s Reports None

6. Status and tracking of letters of recommendation approved by the Commission, requested action by the Board of Supervisors None

7. Old Business None

8A. New Business

Comr. Routhier

Concern about the welfare of animals being trapped behind electric fences with goats controlling vegetation. Occurs every year, suggests a resolution or a City policy with goat contractors to make provisions for wildlife.

Comr. Herndon – Suggests a big space on the bottom such as for horses.

Comr. Hemphill – Goats can squeeze under narrow spaces unlike horses.

Comr. Garcia – Is electricity necessary?

Comr. Weiss – Are other animals killed or harmed from the electric fences?

Comr. Routhier – Main concern is animals not having access to food and water.

Comr. Herndon – Are goats destroying environment animals live in?

Comr. Routhier – Yes, that is the idea.

Comr. Stephens – Electric fences are primarily used in the city not rural areas to avoid harm by human and automobile contact.

Public Comment

L Danyielle Yacabucci – SPCA, Concern for nocturnal animals that rest during the day. Fence remains up for two to three weeks. Suggests 1. allow animals means of exiting electrified fencing by plastic tubing or non-electrified panel. 2. Provide food and water for animals unable to find exits 3. Limit use of electrified fencing only when necessary for human health or safety 4. Use fencing humanely to avoid double fencing which can trap animals between the two. Fencing always goes to the ground.

Comr. Stephens – Can fences be used in smaller areas for less time?

L Danyielle Yacabucci – Goat contractors manage their goats for efficiency. Their only concern is for their goats. They put access panels where fence ends not on animal paths.

Comr. Palacio – Do you know of alternative solutions?

L Danyielle Yacabucci – Use of access panels and attract wildlife by food and water to access spots which must be on wildlife paths.

Comr. Herndon – Would food and water attract goats as well?

L Danyielle Yacabucci – Asks contractors to provide food and water at dusk when goats have settled down.

Comr. Herndon – If goats are settled electric panels could be turned off?

L Danyielle Yacabucci – They won't. Liability issues. Goats are currently at Laguna Honda. The main issue for using the goats is the homeless not fire prevention.

Comr. Routhier – What are the main objections from the goat contractors?

L Danyielle Yacabucci – It takes more batteries, they want to prevent goats escaping, and it is more work for them. We provide food and water for the other animals.

Comr. Routhier – Does someone live with the goats?

L Danyielle Yacabucci – They live offsite in a trailer. Cameras watch the fencing.

Comr. Hemphill – Are you seeing raccoons and other wildlife or is it mainly feral cats?

L Danyielle Yacabucci – It's everything.

Comr. Hemphill – The current is alternating and emits a sound. Once an animal is shocked they don't go near it.

L Danyielle Yacabucci – Plastic tubing is also being considered, 12" diameter, placed around the fence at the base. We have brought this to the goat contractors. They agree and don't do it.

Comr. Routhier – How many goat contractors does the City have?

L Danyielle Yacabucci – One company is used at Laguna Honda.

Comr. Guldbech – Animals lacking food and water sounds like an Animal Care & Control issue. I can follow up.

L Danyielle Yacabucci – Had worked with Kat Brown but it didn't go anywhere.

Comr. Guldbech – Can personally follow up to meet goat contractors. Issues are denying food and water is cruelty. Feeding wildlife is against the law. Current practice cannot continue. Find a way to let wildlife out that is cheap and easy. Tubing is

doable.

Comr. Herndon – What about calling Fish & Game? Wildlife is being trapped which violates state law.

Comr. Guldbeck – I will forward that complaint to them.

Comr. Gerrie – Have you found any animals dead or starved when the fence comes down?

L Danyielle Yacabucci – Most wildlife hides from view and the terrain is often difficult to walk.

Nancy Wuerfel – Goats are a fine IPM concept. Goats eat the leaves and leave a lot of the habitat for wildlife. Encourages future goat contractors to abide by wildlife friendly practices by practices recommended to the Board of Supervisors from ACW

MaryAnn Buxton – Has been at Laguna Honda last two years. Has ensured wildlife is fed. Every year is the same struggle. Electrified fence works better than panels because the goats horns don't get stuck .

Sylvia Johnson – Supports the use of goats.

Commisioner Comments

Comr. Palacio – Park & Rec uses goats as well. Can review contracts to see what is required and add stipulations as discussed if needed. Contract stipulations could apply to all City agencies as a 'Memorandum of understanding.'

Comr. Guldbeck – Will wait until taking action until Palacio reviews contracts.

Comr. Stephens – Wants to see action as policy.

Comr. Herndon – Contract should stipulate to obey all City, State and local laws.

Comr. Garcia – When talking with goat contractors show the local ordinance requiring X versus threatening with violating the law, as a better way to interact.

9. Public Comment

Nancy Wuerfel – Comment of public comment. Suggests writing down suggestions from the public.

Unnamed female – Have the Commissioners been asked to resign under the Mayor's request?

L Danyielle Yacabucci – How can Commission increase its credibility?

Comr. Guldbech – Commission has passed important items in the past but it takes a lot of work. Commission depends on the public to bring items forward.

Comr. Herndon – Some issues that have been worked on were not going to make it.

10. Calendar Items – not recorded

11. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps – not recorded

12. Adjournment 7:10 PM



SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, October 11, 2007

5:30 PM

10-09-07A09:34 KZVD

Room 408
City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

DOCUMENTS DEPT.

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Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Mara Weiss DVM, Christine Garcia, Andrea Brooks, Sally Stephens
Philip Gerrie, Pam Hemphill, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, Bob Palacio
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OCT - 9 2007

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WEBSITE: www.sfgov.org/awcc
COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON: Laurie Kennedy-Routhier

(Note: Public comment will be taken on each discussion/action item.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the September 13, 2007 Meeting [Discussion/Action Item]

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks [Discussion Item]

- A) Report regarding a ballot initiative called the Prevention of Farm Animal Cruelty Act that would ensure that farm animals in California are given enough room to turn around and extend their limbs.

5. Old Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- A) Discussion and possible action to recommend a management system and provisions that would protect wildlife caught behind the electric fences enclosing goats being used to control vegetation growth on lands under the jurisdiction of the city.
[Commissioner Routhier]

6. New Business

[Discussion/Action Item]

- Items are first introduced to the Commission and a motion is made, then there is public comment. After public comment, the Commission discusses the item and then may vote on it.

- A) Recommendation that former Commissioner Sherri Franklin receive a commendation for her valued six-years of service and accomplishment with the Commission.
[Commissioner Routhier]

7. Public Comment

- Members of the public may address the Commission with comments or recommendations on items within the Commission's jurisdiction *other than the items on the agenda* at the beginning or end of the meeting, but not both.

8. Calendar Items

9. Closing Review of Task Allotment and Next Steps

[Review Item]

10. Adjournment

.....

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Inbox (Two-Line View)

Items 1 to 1 of 1



New - Help

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Meeting cancellation notice for immediate posting

Laurie Routhier [lrouthier@sfspca.org]

To: Laurie Routhier; SF Docs; Webmaster City

Cc:

 Tue 1
Meetir

Dear City Webmaster and Public Library Documents Manager,

When I sent the meeting agenda yesterday I was unaware Columbus Day was an observed City holiday. Therefore we have missed the 72 hour posting requirement and must cancel the October 11 Commission of Animal Control & Welfare meeting. Please post that the meeting has been canceled.

Thank you,
Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Chair

From: Laurie Routhier**Sent:** Monday, October 08, 2007 11:33 AM**To:** SF Public Library; Webmaster City**Subject:** Agenda for immediate posting

Hi Webmaster and Public Library Documents Manager,

Attached please find the agenda for the October 11, 2007 meeting of the Commission of Animal Control & Welfare. Please post immediately.

Thanks,
Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Chair
235-7795

10-09-07P04:04 KEMU

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SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, November 8, 2007

5:30 PM

Room 408

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

.....
Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Mara Weiss DVM, Christine Garcia, Andrea Brooks, Sally Stephens
Philip Gerrie, Pam Hemphill, Vicky Guldbeck, William Herndon, Bob Palacio
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[Review Item]

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Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

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November 8, 2008

November 8, 2007

5:34 PM

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JUN 17 2008

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1. Call to order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioners: Laurie Kennedy-Routhier, Andrea Brooks, Sally Stephens, Philip Gerrie, Pam Hemphill, Christine Garcia, Mara Weiss DVM

Absent: Vicki Guldbeck – ACC, William Herndon – SF Police, Bob Palacio – SF Rec& Park. Due to oil spill. Emergency personal are on call by order of the Mayor.

2. Public Comment

Richard Fong – Question about possible fees in the parks in dog-play areas.

Comr. Routhier – Suggests waiting to discuss his question until Bob Palacio returns.

3. Approval of Draft minutes from the September 13, 2007 Meeting

Comr. Stephens – Spelling corrections.

Comr. Routhier – Statement correction.

Comr. Stephens- moved to approve minutes. Comr Garcia seconded.

Minutes approved unanimously with corrections.

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

Comr. Routhier –Talked about the State ballot initiative concerning farm animals inCalifornia that would require that they have enough room to turn around, lay down, stretch their limbs or wings. Many people in California are in process of collecting enough signatures for it to be placed on the ballot to be voted on in November 2008 including several Commissioners on ACWC.

Comr. Gerrie – Noticed on the back side of the petition form that it would not be effective until 2015.

Comr. Routhier – Suggests to Comr. Gerrie to find more about why the long time to become effective for next meeting.

Comr. Brooks – Understands that several years are needed to make the necessary changes which will require a complete overhaul of existing facilities.

Comr. Garica – Two comments. Initiative is limited to three types of farm animals; battery caged chickens, veal cows and sows in gestation crates. Second. Speculates that the year 2015 would make it inoffensive to pass through the legislature.

4 A Public Comment

Richard Fong – Questions how the farm animal statute relates to the 1937 Farm Act.

Comr Routhier – Recommends going to hsus.org which is sponsoring this initiative.

Comr. Hemphill – The penalty for non-compliance in the statute appears relatively small and is unclear.

5. Old Business

Comr. Routhier – Unable to move ahead on issue of goat enclosures due to the absence of reports from Vicki Guldbeck & Bob Palacio.

Comr. Hemphill – Questions were best to put into the memorandum of understanding. Whether in the contract with the City or as a resolution. Moves to table the issue.

Motion tabled.

5 A Public Comment

Richard Fong – Question on enlarging buffalo paddock in GG Park.

6 New Business

Comr. Routhier – Requests commendation be made for Sherri Franklin for her service and accomplishments during 6 years on the ACWC. Has prepared a draft of commendation for commission approval.

6 A Public Comment

1995-2

Ricahrd Fong – Highly recommends Sherri for her service. Questions whether commendation be through ACWC or the Board of Supervisors.

6 New Business

Comr. Routhier- Makes a motion for the commendation of Sherri Franklins' service.

Seconded by Comr Brooks. Passed unanimously.

7 Calendar Items

Comr. Stephens – Concern about binder used on granite by Rec & Park on Upper Noe Park . Binder is called "polipave" which is not designed for dogs. Requests issue be on the agenda for next meeting. Updated info on the oil spill can be found at uscgsanfrancisco.com. Phone numbers for oiled birds rescue are on website.

Closing Review of Task Allotments and Next Steps

Comr. Garcia - Comr. Gerrie agrees to do follow up and specific questions on the farm animal cruelty act. Comr. Routhier agrees to follow up on the goat enclosures.

Comr. Stephens – will bring up the poli-pave permeability issue in dog-play areas.

Adjournment 5:59 PM



